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Soviet Union

Economic Affairs

SPECIAL NOTICE

Effective 1 June 1987 JPRS reports will have a new cover design and color, and some reports will have a different title and format. Some of the color changes may be implemented earlier if existing supplies of stock are depleted.

The new cover colors will be as follows:

CHINA.....	aqua
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WEST EUROPE.....	ivory
AFRICA (SUB-SAHARA).....	tan
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.....	gray
WORLDWIDES.....	pewter

The changes that are of interest to readers of this report are as follows:

USSR reports will become SOVIET UNION reports.

The USSR REPORT: NATIONAL ECONOMY will be titled SOVIET UNION/ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (UEA).

The USSR REPORT: POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS will be titled SOVIET UNION/POLITICAL AFFAIRS (UPA).

The following Soviet journals will be added to those which are already issued in separate series:

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- THE WORKING CLASS & THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD (UWC)
- PEOPLES OF ASIA & AFRICA (UAA)
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- AVIATION & COSMONAUTICS (UAC)
- SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES (USS)

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UZBEK ACADEMICIAN ANALYZES REPUBLIC'S DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

Moscow PLANOVoye KHOZYAYSTVO in Russian No 2, Feb 87 pp 94-99

[Article by S. Ziyadullayev, academician at the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences: "Prospects for the Development of Productive Forces in the Uzbek SSR"]

[Text] The productive forces of the Uzbek SSR represent an integral part of the unified USSR national economic complex. Economic sectors most efficient from national economic positions and determining the republic's place in the all-Union division of labor are developing on the basis of all-Union specialization in it.

From 1960 through 1985 the republic's fixed capital increased 9.3-fold, including productive capital, 11-fold (in industry, more than 12-fold and in agriculture, 9.8-fold), but 6.4 fold for nonproductive fixed capital.

The republic's industry is represented by many sectors producing not only consumer goods, but also the most complex modern types of machines and units--airplanes, cotton harvesting combines, tractors, excavators, pumps, hoisting cranes, transformers, and so forth.

In the production of machines for an overall mechanization of cotton growing (tractor seeders, cultivators, cotton and unripe cotton ball machines, cotton extractors, equipment and spare parts for the cotton cleaning industry and so forth), textile machines, some types of nonferrous metals, cotton fiber, and raw silk Uzbekistan occupies the leading place in the country; in the production of spinning looms and vegetable oil, second and third places; in gas extraction and in the output of cotton and silk fabrics, the fourth.

Fundamental transformations have occurred in agriculture. At present the area of the republic's irrigated land has reached 4 million hectares, as compared to 1.4 million before the revolution. The irrigation and reclamation system has developed enormously. The length of main and interfarm irrigation channels is about 30,000 km, of intrafarm irrigation channels, 120,000 km, and of collector-drainage networks, 75,000 km and there are 30,000 hydraulic structures.

Large reservoirs, by means of which the long-term and seasonal river runoff is controlled, have been built. In the last 20 years the republic's gross agricultural output has increased 9-fold. A total of 5.3 million tons of raw cotton, about 60 percent of the all-Union volume of production of this valuable crop, were grown on the republic's fields in 1985.

The republic's agriculture has a firm material and technical base at its disposal. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes now have about 200,000 tractors, 40,000 cotton harvesting machines, more than 60,000 trucks, and so forth.

The achievements in the social and economic development of the Uzbek SSR are evident. In the last few years, however, serious miscalculations and oversights have occurred in economic management and negative phenomena have taken place in social life. The need to overcome them was discussed at the 27th CPSU Congress. For example, as compared with the 9th Five-Year Plan, the average annual rates of industrial growth during the 11th Five-Year Plan declined from 8.5 to 4.7 percent; output per worker in industry increased by only 7 percent, while 29 percent were planned. Output-capital in industry and agriculture was reduced.

Incomplete construction and the remainders of uninstalled equipment increased considerably. The technical and economic indicators and efficiency of public production dropped; for example, the output of cotton fiber dropped from 34-35 percent during the 9th Five-Year Plan to 27-28 percent, the output of oil from cotton seeds declined perceptibly, and so forth.

Unsatisfactory national economic management, serious errors in planning, individual volitional decisions, and other negative phenomena--report padding, violations of the principles of personnel selection, and so forth--are the main reasons for such a situation. The 16th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the 21st Congress of the republic's Communist Party profoundly analyzed the state of affairs that was created and mapped out measures to rectify it.

The 27th CPSU Congress defined the tasks concerning the acceleration of economic development rates through a fuller utilization of the accumulated vast production potential and activation of the human factor. The following task was set: To mobilize organizational-economic and social resources, to ensure more efficient management in all economic links, and to decisively improve the entire organization and management system.

The transition to a qualitatively new stage in the country's economic development on the basis of intensification and scientific and technical progress presupposes a significant increase in the contribution of every republic to the all-Union stock.

In accordance with the party's strategic policy and Basic Directions in the Economic and Social Development of the USSR the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the third session of the republic's Supreme Soviet (July 1986) determined specific ways for the further development of Uzbek SSR economy and culture until the year 2000. At the same time, the most important regional characteristics were taken into consideration: rates of growth of

the population and labor resources are higher here than, on the average, throughout the USSR. Mineral raw material resources are sufficient for an accelerated increase in production. Agriculture is based only on irrigated farming. There are favorable natural and climatic conditions for the development of heat-loving crops (cotton, early vegetables, fruits, and so forth); large tracts of virgin land can be utilized for an accelerated development of the agro-industrial complex if water resources are available.

In accordance with all-Union specialization in the future the republic will remain the country's main base for cotton and other agricultural crops and the leading producer of machines for cotton growing. However, along with this, if all available resources are put into operation, the republic could also become a big supplier of other major agricultural and industrial, especially food, crops for the country.

The population and labor resources are the most important integral and active part of productive forces. According to the data of the USSR Central Statistical Administration, in 1984 the natural population growth per 1,000 people was 8.8 in the USSR and 28.8 in the Uzbek SSR. According to calculations by scientists and specialists, Uzbekistan's population will continue to increase at rapid rates and will reach 27 or 28 million by the end of the century as compared to 18 million in 1985. Labor resources are also growing accordingly. Consequently, the republic can be considered with good reason the country's region provided with labor, which creates the conditions necessary for an accelerated national economic development. Therefore, an efficient utilization of labor resources is an urgent problem.

Labor resources are distributed unevenly within the republic. For example, in the Fergana Valley, which encompasses three oblasts (Fergana, Andizhan, and Namangan), on the average, there are 0.4 to 0.5 hectares of sown areas per able-bodied person, but in Syr-Darya, Dzhizak, and Kashka-Darya oblasts (especially on newly developed tracts of land), 10 and even 15 hectares. For the population's even distribution over the territory the government and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan take measures to resettle it. In 1986 thousands of families moved to Hungry and Karshi steppes. This process will continue, because, according to the state plan, the republic annually develops 70,000 to 90,000 hectares of irrigated land for an increase in agricultural output. However, in newly developed regions housing, cultural, and every-day construction lags seriously, which hampers the enlistment and retention of personnel.

A constant shortage of skilled manpower (especially in machine building and at textile and other enterprises) is felt in a number of labor-intensive sectors of industry and construction. It will be necessary to significantly expand personnel training along the line of vocational and technical education and to implement a number of material-technical and organizational measures.

Of course, some free labor resources should voluntarily move to the country's other regions, where there is a big need for them and where important all-Union construction projects are carried out. Tens of thousands of the

republic's envoys, especially young people, now work at the country's major construction projects (the Baykal-Amur Trunk Line, nonchernozem zone, and so forth). The latter consider this their patriotic duty.

Matters concerning an efficient utilization of labor resources represent an overall problem, for whose solution it is necessary to ensure an accelerated development of industry (especially of its labor-intensive sectors), agriculture, and the entire agro-industrial complex, as well as of the nonproductive sphere, and to intensify the training of skilled working personnel. All this requires the joint efforts of republic and all-Union organizations.

The maximum utilization of the production potential that has already been created is one of the paramount tasks. The materials of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan pointed out the need for a fuller utilization of the possibilities of increasing the load at the expense of existing capacities, rise in the shift coefficient, sharp improvement in technical-economic and qualitative production indicators, economical expenditures of raw materials, supplies, and electric power, prevention of idle time of manpower and equipment, introduction of more advanced, new technology, and so forth.

The republic has at its disposal the necessary mineral raw material base and substantial labor resources for the further increase in industrial production. For example, Uzbekistan has reserves of copper, lead, zinc, tungsten, kaolin, fluorite, talc, phosphorite, rock and potash salt, cement and lime raw materials, shale, marble, granite, gypsum, claydite raw materials, and so forth, on the basis of which it is possible to establish enterprises of various industrial sectors.

During the period until the year 2000 industrial output will double throughout the USSR, but, according to calculations by scientists at the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences, rates of industrial production can be accelerated 2.3-fold, including during the 12th Five-Year Plan, by 28 percent, which is higher than the average Union indicator.

Serious attention will be paid to replacing fixed capital and to retooling and reconstructing the existing equipment of enterprises. Whereas during the 11th Five-Year Plan only 12 or 13 percent of the capital investments were allocated for these measures, during the 12th Five-Year Plan, up to 30-42 percent and more.

Whereas at present the average shift coefficient of enterprises is 1.2-1.3, by 1990 it is to be increased to 1.6-1.8. Of course, it is necessary to create the appropriate conditions for this: to train skilled cadres of workers, to allocate a sufficient quantity of material and raw material resources, and so forth.

According to calculations by the Uzbek SSR Gosplan, an accelerated replacement of productive capital on the basis of scientific and technical progress and a fuller utilization of capacities will ensure up to 85 percent of the increase in industrial output with a significant improvement in its

quality. For the further improvement in technical and economic indicators and increase in production efficiency 150 computer complexes are to be put into operation during the 12th Five-Year Plan. Work on the establishment of new automated management systems and robots continues.

- Prospects for the further growth of the republic's economy put forward tasks of strengthening the fuel and power complex significantly. Large-scale implementation of energy saving policy and avoiding an overexpenditure of electric power, natural gas, and coal are some of the most important tasks. In connection with the lag in the increase in coal extraction at the Angren Deposit through the fault of the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry and planning organizations a disproportion between the output of electric power at the newly commissioned Novoangren GRES [State Regional Electric Power Station] and coal extraction in Angren has now been formed. As a result, coal has to be brought in from thousands of kilometers away, although the station itself is located in immediate proximity to the Angren Coal Deposit.

To provide the national economy with fuel and power resources, it will be necessary to expand the Syr-Darya and to accelerate the construction of the Talimarzhan GRES, to begin the construction of a new powerful thermal electric power station on mineral fuel, and to connect the region to the country's unified power system. This should ensure an increase in the reliability and efficiency of functioning of the power system in Central Asia.

Machine building is the heart of an accelerated development of the entire national economy. As noted at the 27th CPSU Congress, its role will increase even more, because it creates the active part of fixed productive capital and, thereby, determines to a decisive degree the possibilities of technical progress. Agricultural machine building and the electrical engineering industry are most developed in the republic. However, a number of modern production facilities are developed extremely poorly, or are not developed at all.

Unfortunately, some all-Union machine-building ministries timidly proceed to place their enterprises in the republic. For example, the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building and the Ministry of the Automotive Industry have only one small enterprise each, the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, two, the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building and the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, three, the Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, four, and so forth. The interests of acceleration of scientific and technical progress demand that during the forthcoming period these and other ministries and planning organizations ensure the placement of appropriate machine-building sectors not only in Uzbekistan, but also in other Central Asian republics. Such advanced machine-building sectors as machine tool building, instrument making, chemical machine building, and electronic, radio engineering, and other sectors of industry can be strongly developed here.

During the forthcoming period the output of the chemical industry should increase and of synthetic resins, plastics, polymers, chemical fibers, pulp, and consumer goods will expand. Chemical enterprises should be placed with

due regard for nature protection measures. Nonferrous and ferrous metallurgy and the construction materials industry will be further developed on the basis of existing rich mineral raw material resources.

In connection with the implementation of the extensive construction program and improvement in the investment policy the development of the industrial base of construction organizations and their equipment with new and more productive machines and mechanisms ensuring a reduction in manual labor and a high quality of construction are of exceptional importance. It will be necessary to develop and organize the production of improved and efficient types of building materials and structures (light fillers), enriched nonore materials, decorative and asbestos cement, mineral and glass plates, plastics, polymer articles, claydite, and so forth. Much attention will be paid to the development of large-panel and block house building for housing, as well as industrial, cultural, and every-day, construction.

An accelerated growth of the production of consumer goods is envisaged. In the future the republic should be transformed into a major center of the country's textile industry. Cotton and silk fabrics, knitwear, footwear, and children's goods will be produced at outstripping rates. At the same time, a perceptible improvement in the quality and an expansion of the assortment of consumer goods are envisaged. Sizable capital investments are allocated for the development of these sectors and provision is made for the reconstruction and expansion of the capacities of Tashkent, Fergana, Andizhan, and Bukhara textile combines and of Tashkent, Samarkand, and Kuvasay china plants, for outfitting them with modern equipment, for the completion of construction of the Nukus Cotton Fabric Combine, and so forth.

Uzbekistan has long been famous for the production of silk cocoons. However, owing to the insufficient capacity of silk-winding factories, approximately up to 30 percent of the cocoons grown with great difficulty and big expenditures remain unprocessed year after year. For this reason their grades are lowered and some of them are simply lost. It seems that the USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, and planning organizations should eliminate this disproportion, which does damage to the national economy, as soon as possible, providing cocoon-winding factories with the necessary capacities.

The structure of Uzbekistan's industry will change significantly in the future. According to the calculations of scientists and specialists, the proportion of heavy industry, especially machine building, will increase as a result of a relative reduction in the proportion of light and food industry sectors, even though these sectors will also be developed further. Moreover, advanced structural shifts will also take place within the sectors of heavy and light industry themselves in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the growing needs of the national economy and the population.

All types of transport and communication equipped with powerful, new diesel engines, airplanes, and automatic and other modern means of conveyance will be developed.

As envisaged by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress on the basis of the republic's specific conditions the further expansion of production, improvement in the quality of cotton fiber, and realization of the Food Program are the main tasks facing its agro-industrial complex. Cotton growing should develop basically through intensive factors, that is, a rise in the yield, improvement in the varieties of cotton and in the agricultural practices of its cultivation, general introduction of crop rotations, increase in the yield of fiber and in the oil content of seeds, and overall mechanization and chemicalization.

It is necessary to more widely introduce advanced agricultural practices and early ripening and wilt- and frost-resistant new cotton varieties adapted to appropriate zones and ensuring high cotton harvests.

As is well known, the cotton cleaning industry occupies a substantial proportion in the republic's gross industrial output. Therefore, in connection with the transition to the new system of acceptance, storage, and processing of raw cotton it is necessary to implement an extensive program for the further development and retooling of this important sector of industry with more productive, new equipment, sharply reducing losses, and to increase the cotton yield. For this, in the opinion of specialists, it is necessary to ensure the following:

overall mechanization of basic and auxiliary operations connected with the procurement and storage of raw cotton through the introduction of highly productive, new machines and mechanisms, which greatly improve people's working conditions;

refinement in the technique of evaluating and controlling the qualitative indicators of raw materials and finished output through the development and introduction of automated systems and monitoring and testing equipment;

improvement in the technique and technology of drying, cleaning, processing, and packaging cotton fiber and lint and in methods of storing raw materials, which make it possible to significantly improve the quality of finished output from machine-picked cotton.

Serious attention is paid to an extensive development of rural subsidiary farms of enterprises and organizations, to citizens' private subsidiary farms, and to collective horticulture and gardening.

Under the conditions of Uzbekistan--the country's main cotton base--where there is a shortage of feed for animal husbandry, 100-percent introduction of cotton-lucerne crop rotations takes on great importance. Plans are being made to expand fodder crop areas. At the same time, measures will be taken to raise the yield of fodder crops, which will make it possible to increase the purchase of livestock in the republic.

A correct placement of agricultural production should be accompanied by the introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, that is, the completion of overall mechanization and chemicalization not only in cotton growing, but also in vegetable growing, horticulture, viticulture, silk

breeding, rice growing, animal husbandry, and other sectors, as well as by their transformation into industrial production sectors. Poultry breeding and the gustatory industry--sectors processing agroprom output--will be developed further. The production of vegetable oil, fish, juices, nonalcoholic beverages, mineral water, seedless raisins, dry fruits, and confectionery, bread, flour, and other food products will increase. Their quality and packaging will be improved and their assortment will expand.

Despite the significant volumes of meat and dairy output, its per-capita consumption in the republic remains insufficient. Therefore, on the basis of the all-Union specialization of agricultural output, for the purpose of equalizing the level of economic development, it is advisable for planning organizations to redistribute this output among republics according to efficient per-capita consumption norms.

Much attention is paid to a sharp reduction in the losses of the grown harvest of agricultural crops by promptly gathering, transporting, and storing it. Unfortunately, there are many deficiencies here. In the republic the problem of packaging materials has not yet been solved and there is a shortage of vegetable and fruit storage facilities and refrigerators. The interests of the further improvement in a stable supply of the most important food crops (fruits, vegetables, grapes, and so forth) throughout the year require the undoing of these bottlenecks, elimination of disproportions, expansion of the construction of necessary projects, and solution of problems concerning the provision of specialized transport for the conveyance of perishable products and trade in them.

The development of the food complex should be ensured not only on old arable land, but also through the development of new irrigated land, as well as a more efficient utilization of the agricultural potential of deserts, mountains, and foothills.

Thus, in the future Uzbekistan should become not only the basic producer of cotton, silk, and karakul, but also one of the largest bases for the production of early vegetables, fruits, grapes, and melon crops in the country, their ample supply for the republic's population, and increase in the contribution to all-Union development.

Under the conditions of irrigated farming in Uzbekistan and in all Central Asia and South Kazakhstan the availability of water resources is of the greatest importance for the development of agriculture and the entire national economy. Artificial irrigation serves as the necessary condition for and the decisive factor in the economic growth and social reorganization of agriculture. As a result of the development of waterworks construction and of new irrigated land for an increase in the production of agricultural products, the unutilized water resources of the main rivers--Amu-Darya and Syr-Darya--have been sharply reduced especially in the last 20 to 25 years (the waters of the Syr-Darya are already utilized fully and of the Amu-Darya, approximately 90 percent).

During the period from 1960 through 1985 a total of 1.4 million hectares of new irrigated land, that is, as much irrigated land as Uzbekistan had in 1913, were developed in the Golod, Karshi, and Dzhizak steppes, the Surkhan-Sherabad Valley, the Bukhara Oasis, the Fergana Valley, and the lower reaches of the Amu-Darya (Karakalpak ASSR).

In the last few years the level of the Aral Sea has dropped--with all the ensuing negative consequences. The republic has begun to feel the water shortage to an ever greater extent. For example, during years with a water shortage, for example, 1982, 1985 and, especially, 1986, the situation of agriculture was extremely difficult. During that period, in order to provide cotton with water, some rayons were forced to stop the irrigation of other crops--vegetables, melon crops, lucerne, and so forth--which did great damage to the economy. The quality of water began to deteriorate as a result of a secondary (forced) utilization of return mineralized water, especially in the lower reaches of the Amu-Darya--the Karakalpak Autonomous Republic and Khorezm Oblast in the Uzbek SSR, Tashauz Oblast in the Turkmen SSR, and Kzyl-Orda Oblast in the Kazakh SSR. In connection with this there is a serious and urgent problem of providing the Aral area with water for the further stable economic development of regions located in the lower reaches of the Amu-Darya. In connection with this provision is made for the implementation of major measures to accelerate the economic and social development of the Karakalpak ASSR.

It should be noted that, unfortunately, water is not always utilized economically. It happens that it is expended in excess of the established norms, allowing for mismanagement. This obligates agricultural and water management bodies to develop and implement specific measures in every rayon and farm for an efficient utilization of water resources. At the same time, the reconstruction of irrigation systems, construction of engineering and hydraulic structures, and introduction of advanced methods of irrigation (drop, pipe, subsoil, sprinkling, and so forth) will be of great importance. For a more economical expenditure of water and rise in the efficiency of irrigation systems it is necessary to decisively change over to water supply through faced channels and closed systems, to more widely introduce advanced irrigation methods, and to increase the material interest and responsibility of farms for an efficient utilization of water. Thus, the created water management situation will require a certain reorientation and an accelerated realization of the set of water-saving measures on the basis of scientific and technical progress.

When working out state plans for the development of agriculture in regions, especially for a long-term period, the USSR Gosagroprom and planning and water management bodies should ensure a balance between the planned production volume and the availability of water resources. This is a mandatory condition for a dynamic development of the national economy in irrigated farming regions, especially as water resources are not limitless. Therefore, long-term scientific forecasts should take this circumstance into consideration. For the purpose of a balanced development of productive forces the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers instructed the USSR Gosplan, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the

USSR Academy of Sciences, and the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni V. I. Lenin with the participation of Uzbek SSR, Kazakh SSR, Kirghiz SSR, Tajik SSR, and Turkmen SSR councils of ministers to work out an overall program for the development of productive forces in the republics of Central Asia and Kazakhstan for the period until the year 2010 with due regard for the existing demographic and water management situation and improvement in the structure of agro-industrial production and other national economic sectors. When working out the indicated program, it is necessary to thoroughly examine many common problems concerning water management development of interest for the republics of Central Asia and the Kazakh SSR.

The 27th CPSU Congress paid much attention to an accelerated solution of social problems and to the further rise in the people's standard of living. Unfortunately, owing to the insufficient attention in the republic to social problems, in the level of provision with housing and with cultural and everyday institutions (in per-capita terms) the Uzbek SSR holds one of the last places among the Union republics. Therefore, an accelerated solution of this problem is the most important task.

The plans--the five-year plan and the plan for the period until the year 2000--worked out on the basis of the aims of the 27th CPSU Congress envisage raising the people's well-being to a qualitatively new stage. In the republic during the 5-year period the population's monetary income should rise by almost 23 percent and public consumption funds will also increase. A big social program will be implemented.

The materials of the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and of the third session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet envisage a big volume of housing, cultural, and everyday construction. Furthermore, housing construction with the funds of the population and cooperatives will expand. Plans are made to improve the quality of housing construction. Municipal construction will develop further, especially where there are now difficulties with water--Nukus, Urgench, Bukhara, Navoy, Termez, and so forth. Plans are made to fully complete the installation of gas facilities in cities and large settlements.

New subway lines, which will connect thickly populated regions with new housing blocks--Karakamysh and Yunusabad--will be put into operation in the capital of the Uzbek SSR--Tashkent.

Under the conditions of Uzbekistan, where there are many families with children, the construction of children's kindergartens and nurseries is of great social importance, which will make it possible to involve women in public production. With due regard for the funds of enterprises children's preschool institutions for 400,000 to 415,000 places should be built during the 12th Five-Year Plan, as compared to 206,000 during the 11th Five-Year Plan. The construction of general educational schools will increase by 30 percent as compared to the preceding five-year plan. In 5 years 870,000 workers will acquire skills in vocational and technical schools and the republic's higher and secondary specialized educational institutions will turn out 679,000 specialists.

Much attention is paid to the construction of hospitals, sanatoriums, rest homes, pioneer camps, trade centers, sports installations, clubs, libraries, and other projects for cultural and every-day purposes and to an improvement in the quality of services for the public. Domestic services for the public will increase 1.7-fold and the production of goods for cultural, every-day, and economic purposes, 1.6-fold. The further improvement in the people's living conditions will contribute to an increase in labor productivity and to an accelerated development of the economy.

A dynamic growth of the production of industrial and agricultural output on the basis of intensification and scientific and technical progress should be accompanied by an efficient distribution of productive forces within the republic, rise in the level of development of industry in less developed rayons and oblasts, development of new sources of mineral raw material resources, and establishment of new cities and industrial centers. Ever greater attention is paid to the construction of affiliates of large enterprises in small cities, rayon centers, and large rural settlements for the purpose of bringing work places closer to the centers where the population resides, which will make it possible to increase its employment, to improve living and working conditions, and to limit the growth of big cities.

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CSA CHIEF CRITICIZES PERFORMANCE, SETS IMPROVEMENT GOALS

Moscow VESTNIK STATISTIKI in Russian No 4, Apr 87 pp 3-12

[Article by M. Korolev, chief of USSR Central Statistical Administration: "Tasks of Reorganization of Statistics"; 1st paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] Commencing with the January Plenum of the Central Committee, we entered upon a new stage in our movement and in our work aimed at restructuring. The situation has been analyzed, the political course has been worked out and the principal decisions for implementing this course have been adopted. We must now work.

-- From the concluding remarks by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev during the 28 January 1987 Plenum.

The turning point in the life of our country, foreordained by the April (1985) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th CPSU Congress and their special importance, was once again emphasized in the decisions handed down during the January Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which discussed the question "Reorganization and the Party's Personnel Policies" from a broad socio-economic standpoint, while taking into account the past and the need for overcoming stagnant phenomena and tasks in the future, based upon the final goal of restructuring -- renovation of all aspects of life in our society, assigning more modern forms for social organization to socialism and uncovering more fully the creative potential of the socialist system.

The principal means for accelerating economic growth must include the latest achievements of science and engineering, radical improvements in the economic mechanism and throughout the entire administrative system, efficient utilization of the human factor through a sharp increase in the labor and social activity of people, democratization and extensive openness in work, truthfulness, intolerance of shortcomings and the desire to improve work.

Restructuring is no longer simply an idea. It is in fact a reality. Large-scale changes are taking place throughout the country, changes which are being supported fully by the Soviet people.

The central economic departments, including the USSR CSA bear special responsibility for implementing restructuring. Guided by the decisions handed

down during the January Plenum of the party's Central Committee, specific plans must be developed and implemented for radically reorganizing state statistics in the interest of having them conform more completely to modern conditions, increasing the role they play and their scientific validity, objectivity and effectiveness, intensifying economic analysis and adjusting the economic mechanism.

During the year that has elapsed following the 27th CPSU Congress, a definite amount of work has been carried out in connection with improving statistical work. The initial steps have been taken with regard to regulating statistical reporting -- reducing the amount of reporting, the schedules for preparing reports, uncovering and abolishing illegal reporting and raising the results being realized from control over the authenticity of data. Improvements are being realized in the analysis of information and the critical nature of such information when shedding light on negative phenomena and processes in economic development and during the fulfillment of planned tasks has been intensified. New forms are being developed for raising the effectiveness of information in connection with the more urgent aspects of social and economic development -- the issuing of express-information for leading organs has been organized. In order to improve the availability of information to the population, press-reports on statistical materials are being prepared for the press, radio and television.

The restructuring that is underway serves as an initial check on personnel work, on the competence of leaders, on the professional training for workers, on their business-like qualities, initiative and persistence in organizing and solving new problem questions concerned with statistics under modern conditions.

However, the operational results are still rather humble, with large-scale shortcomings and areas of neglect continuing to persist in some important sectors.

As yet, little progress has been made in connection with restructuring. For example, the party committee and the Personnel Administration for the USSR CSA recently had 2,200 workers fill out a questionnaire on the question of restructuring and personnel policy. Only 19 percent of those interrogated within the CSA believe that restructuring is fully in progress in their sectors, in the GVTs [Main Computer Center] -- 17 percent, and in the GUPK -- 10 percent. The chief reason, as revealed during the interrogation, lies in the weak utilization of the creative capabilities of the workers. This was noted in the CSA in 72 percent of the questionnaires, in the GVTs -- 76 percent and in GUPK -- 82 percent of the questionnaires.

In order for statistics to become an important instrument for implementing the party's program for accelerating the country's socio-economic development, the basic principles and directions to be followed for reorganizing statistics must be developed within the system of state statistical organs, in close coordination with the measures carried out throughout the country aimed at the reform of economic administration.

And many problems have accumulated here.

The existing system of statistical indicators (including for reporting), which has been in use for decades, is uncoordinated, ragged and not in keeping with the modern administrative requirements. It should be reviewed in light of the new conditions under which the national economy must operate and our entire society must live. Many of the indicators which were used in statistics during the period of extensive economic development no longer meet the increasing requirements for administration and planning and only tend to inhibit reporting and statistics. The statistical science, the Scientific Research Institute of Statistics for USSR CSA and subunits of USSR CSA are confronted with the task of developing a scientifically sound system of indicators. Such a system of indicators must make it possible to describe completely the processes involved in accelerating socio-economic development, analyze the factors involved in intensifying and raising production efficiency, study thoroughly the rates and proportions for economic development and measure more accurately from a statistical standpoint the processes involved in accelerating economic growth, implementing structural and investment policy, ensuring the availability of all types of resources and achieving resource conservation and the social development of society. Strong improvements are needed in the indicators for current observations, particularly by territories. Such a complete and scientifically sound system of statistical indicators, required for planning and administration, which describes rather fully and objectively all of the mass phenomena both in the economy and in the social sphere, must be formed together with USSR Gosplan and other economic departments. It is exactly this type of system that must provide the basis for the formation of reporting information.

The reporting information existing in the national economy is cumbersome, bureaucratic and for the most part excessive, owing to duplication and unnecessary information which often inhibits administration, disorients it, inhibits the lively management of paperwork and promotes such abnormal phenomena as excessive reporting.

At the present time, in addition to state statistics, weakly coordinated departmental statistics are also being employed, the scales of which have expanded substantially with the creation of branch and regional automatic control systems. And this has increased noticeably the workloads of enterprises and other primary elements of the national economy. Parallelism and duplication in the flow of information have led to confusion and unjustified excesses in the expenditure of funds and in other negative phenomena.

The organs of state statistics have been assigned the task of implementing measures for reducing statistical reporting, regulating reporting in the national economy and to terminate decisively all attempts by the central and local organs of administrative control to introduce unnecessary reporting indicators.

Strong improvements are needed with regard to restoring proper order in accounting and reporting, reducing still further statistical and bookkeeping reporting, uncovering and abolishing illegal reporting and processing existing instructions and other normative documents.

Special attention must be given to ensuring that the ministries and departments overcome the neglect that is apparent in accounting work at enterprises and organizations, carry out work concerned with the unification of primary accounting based upon unified systems of accounting-reporting documentation, coding, processing and summarizing of information and restoring strict state order in accounting work.

The organs of state statistics must lead the campaign aimed at protecting enterprises against bureaucratic ways which tend to inhibit the development of independence in production collectives, reducing reporting to the maximum possible degree and exercising control over this process.

The USSR CSA is actively carrying out work in this direction. The amount of reporting has been reduced by a factor of two. But with a reduction in legitimate reporting, a sharp increase has also taken place in illegal reporting, which in some instances exceeds state reporting by a factor of 3-5 or more. In 1986, the statistical organs uncovered and abolished more than 28,000 forms of illegal reporting in a volume of 34 million indicators per year. The campaign against such reporting must be intensified.

The press, radio and television are constantly making note of the large shortcomings in reporting, the avalanche of illegal reporting and the numerous instructions and directions concerned with reporting. There is an excessively large number of departmental normative documents which tend to regulate to an excessive degree the activities of enterprises and associations and this results in unjustified restrictions being placed upon their rights and it restrains the development of initiative in the labor collectives. Conflicting instructions and inaccurate and vague formulations continue to be encountered in a number of documents.

The economic departments must ensure that all existing instructions, statutes and other normative documents conform to the principles of the new economic mechanism and to the requirements for expanding the rights and raising the responsibility of associations and enterprises and converting them over to a self-supporting basis and to self-financing. The USSR CSA must review 160 active instructions.

During this modern stage, special importance is attached to the authenticity of statistical information. The campaign against deception and fraud has been intensified in all areas and this has been promoted by the adoption in October 1986 of the decree of the CPSU Central Committee entitled "Unsatisfactory Fulfillment of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee On the Eradication of Deception and Fraud by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldavia, the Kirovograd Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and USSR Minavtoprom [Ministry of the Automotive Industry]. Some operational results are already apparent and less deception and fraud are being noted in a number of union republics and regions.

At the same time, inspections have revealed that distortions of state reporting and deception are still widespread and that strong improvements have still not taken place in this work.

The statistical organs must concentrate their attention on the need for radically reorganizing the work concerned with ensuring authentic reporting, an uncompromising evaluation of incidents involving deception, raising the quality and intensity of inspections carried out by reducing their number, creating an atmosphere of unacceptability of incidents of deception and the inevitability of punishment for such acts and intolerance of acts involving a liberal attitude towards negative phenomena and towards people who commit them and greater openness in publicizing the results of inspections. The statistical organs must direct the campaign for truthfulness and improve the coordination of this work with other controlling organs.

In the campaign against deception and for better quality information, it should be borne in mind that a lack of authenticity in information tends to undermine one's faith in statistics and makes them extremely vulnerable to all types of criticism. For example, an article by V. Selyunin and G. Khanin entitled "Deceptive Figures" (NOVYY MIR, 1987, No 2) begins with an incident involving deception in motor transport. And although all of the subsequent calculations and conclusions in the article are wrong, the reader is left with an incorrect impression engendered by these facts.

Deception cheapens statistics and all work carried out by the statistical organs and it causes substantial moral harm. A merciless campaign must be waged against those who create or endorse such deception.

Another factor which tends to cheapen statistical information is the absence of timeliness. This is a very serious shortcoming and one which at times can reduce to nil all previous work. As no other resource, information deteriorates very rapidly and if it is presented in an untimely manner its value decreases accordingly. A lack of the required data at the moment that a decision is handed down results in actions being taken blindly. An indispensable condition for work by the organs of statistics, in accordance with the new conditions, is that of implementing the strategy which calls for improvements in the timeliness of statistical information.

During 1986, the schedules for presenting monthly and other types of operational information were shortened somewhat. Daily data even appeared in the case of some items. Reports and other analytical materials on the fulfillment of plans are being presented considerably earlier than usual. A new type of operational report has been introduced -- "express-information," which makes it possible to inform management more rapidly regarding some of the more important socio-economic problems of development, problems and situations which arise during the carrying out of planned tasks and which require the adoption of appropriate operational decisions as the data is processed. These materials must be distinguished by accuracy and brevity in reporting and by attention being concentrated on the main questions and on ensuring that they are presented in a prompt manner.

The work that has already been carried out in connection with shortening the schedules for the presentation of information is clearly inadequate. Basic improvements are needed in the provision of timely information support for the permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers and union republics,

economic organs, ministries and departments and also local leading and economic organs, in the interest of ensuring the effective implementation of the functions of state and economic management.

This requires a decisive conversion over to the modern technology for gathering and transmitting data and a maximum automation of all processes, commencing with the presentation of primary data by enterprises and ending with the transmission of summary information through displays and facsimile units to the appropriate users.

Although work is being carried out in this direction, the scale of such work is not in keeping with the modern requirements. Thus the current five-year plan calls for the technical re-equipping of the statistical organs with modern electronic computers of various classes, commencing with personal computers and ending with medium size and large computers.

All of the statistical organs and also their users must be linked together in a more energetic manner by assigned communications channels, the absence of which is delaying the introduction of the "non-paper" technology and direct access to data banks.

Scientific studies in the area of statistics must be expanded. A complete program of studies must be developed, one which will ensure systematic solutions for those problems confronting the statistical science and practical work during this modern stage.

The development of scientific means and methods for the economic analysis of statistical information is in need of substantial improvement. In addition to improving the traditional methods of analysis, a need also exists for developing and implementing a program for employing economic-mathematical methods, methods for simulation and forecasting and graphic methods and for introducing them into the operational practice of the organs of state statistics at all levels.

More extensive use should be made of a compilation of current and annual all-round economic reviews and international statistical compilations.

Considerable improvements are needed with regard to analyzing fulfillment of the five-year and annual plans and the all-state and regional programs for solving important national economic problems, accelerating socio-economic development, reorganizing structural and investment policies, intensifying and raising the efficiency of social production and improving the administrative system and managerial methods.

Special attention must be given to analyzing those problems concerned with economic proportions and balance, to implementing the social policies of the CPSU in an active manner and to improving the socialist life style and the effectiveness of foreign economic relationships.

The analysis of statistical data which reveals improvements in the economic mechanism in the economic branches must undergo further development and

ministries and enterprises must be converted over to complete cost accounting and to the principles of self-support and self-financing.

Much is being said concerning the need for a comprehensive analysis of statistical information, but it is still being used only rarely and more often than not on a formal basis. Its purpose -- to analyze a phenomenon under study as a single whole, while taking into account the various aspects and a quantitative and qualitative measurement of the factors affecting the phenomenon and exposing the trends and regularities governing its development.

Numerous reports, statistical bulletins and other materials sent to leading organs have for many years been marked by the use of a routine and unimaginative approach. Instead of genuine analysis, one often encounters a multiple-page narration of tabular data and shallow and often economically unsound conclusions, recommendations and so forth. Many reports are overloaded with unprocessed tabular material that makes it difficult to understand the essence of the problems being analyzed.

The most important task of our organs is to acquaint the masses with the statistics. In recent years, the publication of statistical data has declined somewhat and less effort has been devoted to keeping the population informed. This affected not only propaganda but also scientific studies in the area of social science, it promoted a strengthening of bourgeois counter-propaganda and thus on the whole it had adverse consequences.

In light of the aims of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January Plenum of the party's Central Committee concerning a maximum expansion in openness and in the development of socialist democracy, a sharp improvement is needed in the information-propaganda activities of statistical organs -- to publish more statistical handbooks, to issue press-releases to the mass media, materials to the scientific institutes and so forth and to organize press conferences and speeches by state statistical workers.

These many-sided problems require the development of special measures. The chief such measure -- a strong expansion in the availability of information to the population and international society on the development of the first socialist state in the world and the great socio-economic changes taking place in it.

The branch subunits of USSR CSA and the CSA's of union republics must carry out strong improvements in their work in this area. First of all, the content of information being published must be improved substantially in conformity with the modern requirements for openness and, secondly, the schedules for the issuing of such information must be shortened considerably. A situation must be reached wherein concise statistical handbooks for the republics are issued not later than April and statistical annuals -- in September or October.

Information on fulfillment of the state plan for economic and social development must now be published quarterly, including all branches of the national economy. Their structure has been reorganized substantially. This is particularly apparent in publications issued during 1986. The schedules for issuing reports must be shortened sharply, more intense analysis must be

carried out and the specific peculiarities in the economic development of a republic must be reflected in the publications.

Importance is attached to preparing press releases for the mass media. The journal KOMMUNIST, having commenced the publication of USSR CSA press releases in Issue No. 1 for this year, emphasized their great importance for acquainting the population with specific statistical data on the country's economy and social development. These materials were welcomed and are being used extensively.

However, very little initiative is being displayed within the system of statistical organs for maintaining close collaboration with the press and only weak consideration is being given to the needs and interests of the mass media. At the present moment, press releases represent the most important channel for expanding the openness of statistical information.

The 70th anniversary of the Great October will be marked by the issuing of jubilee handbooks and the publication of statistical materials, in the form of aids for agitators and propagandists and for the mass media.

In connection with the task of improving publications, the work of the journal VESTNIK STATISTIKI must be reorganized radically. The journal is still ineffective. Its pages still do not contain adequate materials on the practical work of the statistical organs, their operational difficulties or on their achievements. Very few articles are being published containing an analysis of the country's economic and social life, consultative materials or theoretical works associated with the urgent problems of statistical practice under modern conditions. The production of materials for agitators, propagandists and general readers must be expanded.

These then are some of the tasks associated with reorganizing the work of the organs of state statistics. The execution of these tasks requires a radical restructuring in the structure of the organs of state statistics and changes in the organizational forms and in the entire managerial mechanism.

In order to raise the effectiveness of statistics, unified statistical organs must be created in the various areas and they must be combined with their computer organizations.

Active work is presently being carried out in connection with reorganizing the rayon level of state statistics, the work of which is characterized by considerable difficulties and shortcomings. In 1986, the former rayon inspectorates became rayon departments of state statistics and in this manner the creation of unified statistical organs at this level was completed. The departments became structural units of oblmashinform, with the rights of territorial subunits. This made it possible to organize their work more efficiently, to eliminate substantial differences in the wages for statistical workers and to improve working conditions and technical re-equipping.

The logistical base for rayon statistical organs is being improved. During this five-year plan, they will be equipped with ES-1840 personal type computers. VNIPIuchet [All-Union Scientific Research and Planning Institute

for Accounting] has been tasked with implementing during 1987 an applied support program for solving statistical tasks at the rayon level and GUPK and Soyuzmashinform of USSR CSA, jointly with the CSA's of union republics, with rapidly organizing the mass instruction of statisticians in the use of this equipment.

At the present time, recommendations have been prepared for improving the organizational structure of statistical organs at the oblast (ASSR and kray) level. The plans call for them to be converted into statistical administrations with the rights of production associations.

At the same time, modern economic methods of management will be fully placed in operation and this must promote successful solutions for the tasks concerned with raising the effectiveness and quality of statistics. The structure of these organs will be regulated and simplified and appropriate funds will become available which will make it possible to solve social problems and also problems associated with technical re-equipping. The social climate will be improved by the creation of unified collectives and unified social organizations.

Soyuzmashinform must complete all work concerned with converting organizations within the computer system over to the new managerial conditions by 1 July 1987.

The boards of the USSR CSA and the CSA's of union republics must exercise firm control over the work associated with improving the organizational structure of the statistical organs.

The rayon organs, by combining statistical and information-computer work, must raise their competence, strengthen their links with enterprises and organizations, raise the reliability of information, its economic analysis and the effectiveness of materials presented to the organs of administration.

A substantial simplification in the structure of the central staffs at the union and republic levels and maximum adherence of it to the staff structure of the councils of ministers is expected such that each permanent organ of government corresponds to a definite statistical subunit. Thus the plans for the central staff of the USSR CSA call for the creation of an Administration for Social Statistics which will be entrusted with organizing operations in a given branch, coordinating those operations, developing a methodology and system of indicators for social statistics, collecting and processing data which describes the manner of fulfillment of five-year and annual plans and programs for social development and for raising national well-being, approved by the 27th CPSU Congress and the carrying out of social opinion inquiries regarding some of the more important problems of socio-economic life jointly with the Soviet Sociological Association, the Institute of Sociological Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Goskomtrud [State Labor Committee], AUCCTU and other interested departments. Similar subunits will be created in the CSA's of union republics.

A unified system of statistical information, one which will satisfy the requirements for efficient management of the economy at the all-state, branch

and regional levels in the form of reliable and modern statistical materials, must be created on this new organizational basis. In the process, parallelism and duplication of information flows must be eliminated completely, a conversion must be carried out over to a machine technology for gathering, transmitting and processing data and the integration of statistical information based upon the interaction of branch and regional ASU's [automatic control systems] and ASGS's [automatic systems for state statistics] must be ensured.

The ASGS system must undergo further development. A key trend for the future will be the new development, from the standpoint of quality, of a systematic technology for gathering and processing information based upon such principles as one-time introduction, minimization of information flows and integrated processing of information within the framework of functional subsystems, with extensive use being made of automated data banks.

The task for the immediate future consists of ensuring that all of the computer centers in the ASGS -- from the GVTs [main computer center] of the USSR CSA to the RVT's [rayon computer centers] of union republics and the VT's [computer centers] of oblasts -- are connected by reliable communications channels. Moreover, there is also the task of maintaining direct communications between the VT's in our system and the industrial enterprises. A sharp reduction can be realized in the schedules for presenting operational information to the organs of administration through a reliable and systematic technology for transmitting and processing information.

As emphasized during the January Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, success in carrying out restructuring is dependent to a decisive degree upon the personnel policies implemented, upon the speed and extent to which the personnel understand the need for restructuring and upon the party's policies being implemented in a creative and purposeful manner.

All personnel work must be evaluated based upon the effects of restructuring in the various personnel sectors. There must be a sharp increase in exactingness for all categories of specialists for the timeliness and quality of the work performed by them, for their responsibility for assigned tasks, for a high level of discipline and organizational ability while decisively suppressing complacency and conceit over "successes," and for developing initiative, enterprise and independence in carrying out one's work. However, every attempt must be made to eliminate those methods which are in conflict with the plans. We are in favor of the reorganization and yet we do not wish to shake up the personnel.

An acceleration is possible only with maximum activation of the human factor and further development of democracy. In the near future, we must examine the question of the electiveness of leading workers and define the list of enterprises, institutes and organizations within the system, where such electiveness can be introduced. The need is at hand for introducing the certification of leading workers and specialists into the statistical system as an effective form for collective control over personnel work and for stimulating growth in the business-like skills of the workers.

Further democratization in personnel work and an expansion of openness in this are will create more favorable conditions for the development of criticism and self-criticism in a spirit of intolerance of shortcomings and all types of violations and abuses. Not one worker can remain above criticism or beyond control. Full use must be made of the statutes of the USSR law governing labor collectives. Conditions must be created for implementing the rights of labor collectives in solving production and personnel problems. Recommendations for the formation of a personnel reserve for advancement and the assignment of workers, incentives, awards and penalties must be discussed extensively during meetings of social organizations and collectives and decisive importance attached to their opinions.

When creating a reliable personnel reserve for advancement, importance is attached to the party's requirements which hold that each worker, regardless of the position he holds, must train a replacement for himself, one who is capable at any moment of accepting the baton and carrying out the work in the proper manner.

Owing to the absence of a reliable reserve or a lack of coordination of the reserve with the leading organs, persons lacking appropriate professional training or adequate economic operational experience are at times assigned to nomenclature positions in the CSA's of union republics and statistical administrations.

A radical restructuring is needed in the work concerned with raising the competence of the personnel, their structure from the standpoint of quality, educational level and professional training, especially at the rayon level.

Young specialists constitute an important source for augmenting and renovating the personnel structure with skilled workers. In 1986, our organs received a large detachment of graduates of VUZ's and technical schools. A great amount of work is being carried out with young specialists in connection with the acquisition of practical experience and retaining them in the statistical organs. A principal shortcoming in this work is the weak solutions being found for social problems and quite often the unpromising status of specialists in the statistical administrations. In many instances, normal housing-domestic, production and other conditions are not being created for them. It was for this reason that, during the last five-year plan, the system annually lost 20 percent of its young specialists possessing higher educations and 24 percent of those having secondary specialized educations and this was especially true in the CSA's for the Uzbek, Azerbaijan, Kirghiz and Armenian SSR's. In 1986, 10 percent of the VUZ graduates and 20 percent of those who graduated from technical schools never arrived at their assignment destinations.

Under modern conditions, knowledge tends to age very rapidly. Considerable importance is attached to constantly renewing this knowledge. Everyone must constantly undergo training. However, there are large shortcomings in the organization of additional training for specialists and it was by no means an accident that only 11 percent of the workers interrogated (and on the central staff --only 8 percent) assigned a positive value to the existing level of additional training for personnel. The existing instructional programs are

too formal in nature: under the new conditions and modern tasks in the area of statistics, there is no direct link between these programs and practical work. Very little attention is given in them to the use of computers or to the mathematical methods employed in forecasting. Thus workers do not display great enthusiasm when undertaking these courses, since they feel that their store of knowledge is being increased only negligibly (many even refer to such training as a "waste of time").

In this regard, serious claims are being addressed against the Personnel Administration of the USSR CSA, which is not examining thoroughly the essence of the program for improving skills, the problems concerned with the competence of professors and teachers or the methods to be used for conducting exercises and also against the USSR CSA GUPK, where restructuring for all practical purposes has yet to start in this area. Great things are expected from the MIPK for Accounting and Statistics, which must become the principal training center for raising the skills of leading workers and specialists.

A new type of leader has developed over a period of many years in the organs of state statistics. The high requirements being imposed upon leaders from the standpoint of competence, organizational capabilities, moral-political qualities and ability to work with people are all well known. But at the present time each leader must reinterpret the requirements being imposed upon him from the standpoint of the statute of the January Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee entitled "The Reorganization and the Party's Personnel Policies." For it is from this standpoint that a leader must measure his work, behavior, actions and interrelationships with people. The authority of a leader is not only a personal matter but also a social concern. In the absence of authority, it is impossible to create a disciplined and competent collective or achieve great successes. For the quality of a leader, in the words of V.I. Lenin, is determined "not by the force of power, but rather by the force of authority, the force of energy, great experience and great talent."

To an increasing degree, the aims of a leader are realized in close collaboration with the work of the party, trade union and komsomol organizations.

In the restructuring and in personnel work, priority importance is being attached to the problems concerned with social development. Positive experience is available in our system for solving them. At the same time, we cannot tolerate any large shortcomings in this work in the future. Some leaders of statistical organs and their social organizations are not fulfilling the plans for the socio-economic development of labor collectives, they are not following the schedules for the construction of social and production installations and they are not undertaking effective measures aimed at creating normal production and housing-domestic conditions for the members of collectives. The capital investment limits allocated for strengthening the logistical base are not being utilized satisfactorily. During the years of the 11th Five-Year Plan on the whole, they were utilized only 71 percent and during 1986 -- 65 percent, including in the CSA for the Kazakh SSR -- 21 percent and the CSA for the Armenian SSR -- 34 percent.

The situation is very poor with regard to supplying workers with housing space and billets in childrens' pre-school institutes, young pioneer camps, dormitories and dining halls and the requirements in this area are indeed great. Public catering has been organized very poorly in almost all areas. Urgent solutions are needed for all of these problems.

It is a matter of civil and professional honor to carry out the measures planned for restructuring and for personnel work on a high scientific and practical level. Our party, trade union and komsomol organizations must carry out purposeful work in the labor collectives in connection with the practical implementation of the tasks established for improving state statistics.

In a speech delivered before the January Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, M.S. Gorbachev emphasized: "We must clearly realize that we are at the final stage in the restructuring. The principal and most complicated work lies ahead. We must move forward persistently, step by step and without faltering, we must soberly evaluate the work already accomplished and not fear making mistakes and we must search for and find new means and methods for solving the tasks that arise, while advancing steadily towards our planned goals.

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PROPOSED SCIENCE-PRODUCTION SYSTEMS EXPLAINED

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by A. Dzhakhangirov, deputy director of the All-Union NII [Scientific Research Institute] of Agricultural Economics and doctor of economic sciences, and Ye. Ogloblin, doctor of economic sciences and professor: "The Production System: At Your Request"; first two paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] "From the newspaper we have learned that science-production and production systems will be created in agriculture in our country. Please tell us in SELSKAYA ZHIZN what kind of systems these are and what their special characteristics are. [Signed by I. Koryagin, village of Pilna, Gorkiy Oblast].

We have asked scientists from the All-Union NII of Agricultural Economics to answer the questions posed in the letter.

Practical experience shows that differences in basic production indicators--the productivity of crops being cultivated and of livestock raising--are very significant in enterprises even within a single rayon agro-industrial association. Here leading enterprises rise above the others with their high indexes.

The role of such enterprises as beacons is undoubtedly great. But today this is not enough. They can and must play a more active role in the transmission and repetition of their experience in many other enterprises and farms. We are talking about having leading kolkhozes, sovkhoses, interfarm enterprises, and testing enterprises of the NII's or higher educational institutions take upon themselves the functions of rendering trained assistance in organizing industrial or intensive production technologies for a particular product in other enterprises. As the experience of a number of fraternal socialist countries (VNR [Hungary], ChSSR [Czechoslovakia] and others) shows, this idea is being successfully implemented within the framework of industry-production or science-production systems, which are unique integrated organizations working according to the principles of cost accounting and mutual interest. In other words, these kinds of systems represent a group of agricultural enterprises which unite voluntarily for the purpose of organizing coordinated

production of particular products on the basis of the use of the most progressive technologies under the leadership of a head enterprise--the technological center of the given system.

In addition to agricultural enterprises, the system may include service and processing enterprises and organizations as well as trade organizations.

In the Hungarian People's Republic, for example, there were 69 systems in operation in 1985 in the various branches of agriculture, including 45 in farming and 24 in livestock raising. Over nine-tenths of the total number of state farms and cooperatives participate in them, and many enterprises operate within two or three systems. In farming the systems encompass about 70 percent of arable land with their influence, including over 90 percent of the corn fields, 87 percent of wheat fields and almost the entire area in sugar beets and rice. Our Hungarian friends feel that in such systems favorable conditions are created for the utilization of the entire "intellectual potential" of the branch, the organizational role of specialists-technologists grows significantly in comparison to traditional forms of production organization, technological discipline is strictly maintained, the modernization of the means of production is implemented significantly quicker, the scale of production grows and production effectiveness increases.

At the present time favorable conditions have developed in our country as well for the creation of science-production and production systems. Integrated ties within them are simpler than, let us say, in science-production and production associations and especially than in combines. Thus, whereas enterprises join associations, which basically are single economic organisms, with their total operations, they join systems with only a particular branch of agriculture as for example for the production of wheat grain or corn, potatoes, milk, meat or other types of products. Here it is very important to have a well-grounded approach to the selection of the head enterprise. It can be the leading enterprise, where effective production technology has been developed for the intended product and where the highest indicators and yields in a particular zone, oblast or rayon are achieved. At the same time it must have highly-trained cadres who are interested in sharing their technological and organizational expertise.

As for scale, the system can be created on a rayon, interr rayon or oblast level and depending on this it can include different numbers of enterprises. The system's activities are organized on a contractual basis. This means that the head enterprise concludes a two-party contract with every kolkhoz, sovkhov and other enterprise that joins the system. This contract indicates those services which will be provided by the head enterprise to the given participant. The rights and obligations of both parties are established. Participating enterprises pay a fee to join and repay the head enterprise for expenditures related to the rendering of services. Should the participating enterprise experience improved production indexes (in comparison with a certain base period) it deducts a portion of the supplementary production and profits for the head enterprise. The amounts of these deductions are determined individually in the two-party contract. In the head enterprise

certain funds are created which can be used to repay expenditures related to the operations of the system or for the expansion and continued improvement of its operations.

For example, here is how a system for the production of high-quality wheat, which can be produced using Sovkhoz imeni Kalinin of Pavlovskiy Rayon, Krasnodar Kray, as a base, would look. This sovkhoz is the experimental enterprise of the Krasnodar Scientific-Research Institute of Agriculture imeni P. P. Lukyanenko. In 1981-1985 on an area of 3,700 hectares average annual productivity of winter wheat comprised 48.8 quintals, whereas in neighboring enterprises of the rayon it did not surpass 28.5-34.9 quintals. As we can see, the difference in productivity is extremely evident. Sovkhoz imeni Kalinin has at its disposal experienced cadres of specialists and machine operators who are completely knowledgeable about the intensive technology for cultivating winter wheat. Here with the aid of scientists from the institute constant improvements are being made in the technology and organization of production and of course the opportunity exists to help neighboring enterprises. At the first stage five enterprises with a total sowing area for winter wheat of 20,600 hectares could join this system. The two-party contract that is concluded by Experimental Enterprise imeni Kalinin as the head enterprise with each enterprise that joins the system foresees a whole list of services which it [Sovkhoz imeni Kalinin] will provide (supplying seed and other resources, consultation on technology, training of cadres, and so forth). The obligations of participating enterprises must also be included. Enterprises desiring to join the system pay a one-time fee on the basis of 4.3 rubles per hectare of winter wheat, which will equal about 87,000 rubles or about 18,000 rubles per enterprise. If as a result of joint operations productivity and gross wheat yield increase in participating enterprises as compared to the previous 3-year period (base) then in accordance with the contract they will give Sovkhoz imeni Kalinin 10-15 percent of their additional production and up to 10 percent of additional profits. In specific terms this might look like this. Under conditions in which gross yield and profits increase by 15 percent, total deductions in all five enterprises will equal a minimum of 185,000 rubles to a maximum of 255,000 rubles, or 37,000-51,000 rubles per enterprise. Participating enterprises themselves are interested in deducting a portion of supplementary profits because Experimental Enterprise imeni Kalinin as the head enterprise of the system can use these resources to improve its operations to introduce intensive technologies in these enterprises, to train cadres of specialists and machine operators, and to improve the organization of labor and production while interesting its specialists and other workers in this.

Production systems which are based on a strictly voluntary basis will in no case oppose management organs--oblast agro-industrial committees and the RAPO [Rayon Agro-Industrial Association]. These organs must be interested in forming systems and in giving them all types of help, in directing their activities toward the sharp increase in production output and toward increasing their economic effectiveness.

Today USSR Gosagroprom has developed a resolution on production and science-production systems. It formulates the basic principles for creating these systems and the conditions under which they may function in various branches

of agricultural production. Nevertheless, a number of questions still require experimental investigation under production conditions. The organization of experimental systems will enable us to work out the most adaptable models that will meet all our needs. In Transcarpathian Oblast an experimental horticultural science-production system has already been created on the base of a test station.

But already today, taking into account the experience of Hungary and other socialist countries, we can confirm that these kinds of systems can provide an additional impulse for continued intensification of agricultural production and for improving its effectiveness.

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GOSAGROPROM OFFICIALS HOLD PLANNING CONFERENCE

Moscow ZAKUPKI SELSKOKHOZYAYSTVENNYKH PRODUKTOV in Russian No 2, Feb 87
pp 42-43

[Article by S. Pivovarov, scientific secretary at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Planning and Norms: "Planning Improvements in USSR Gosagroprom System"]

[Text] In Rostov-na-Don, at the VNII [All-Union Scientific Research Institute] for Planning and Norms of USSR Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee], an all-union conference was held on implementing improvements in the economic and social development of oblagroproms [oblast agroindustrial committees], rayon agroindustrial associations, enterprises and their subunits.

The leaders of economic services of union republic gosagroproms, individual rayon agroindustrial associations, oblast and kray agroindustrial committees, gosagroproms of autonomous republics and also leading associations, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and industrial enterprises of the APK [agroindustrial complex] all participated in the work of this conference; scientific workers of research institutes of the USSR Gosagroprom system.

The conference was conducted by workers attached to the Main Administration for the Social and Economic Development of the APK of USSR Gosagroprom. Its purpose -- to develop recommendations for further improving the forms and methods for preparing the annual and five-year production-financial plans of enterprises, organizations and their subunits and also rayon agroindustrial associations and oblagroproms, in light of the requirements handed down during the 27th CPSU Congress and the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers entitled "Further Improvements in the Economic Mechanism for Management in the Country's Agroindustrial Complex." Those who participated in the conference listened to speeches delivered by the 1st deputy chairman of the Rostov Oblast Executive Committee, the chairman of the oblast agroindustrial committee N.I. Kusharenko and the director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Planning and Norms for USSR Gosagroprom I.N. Soldatov. The deputy chief of the Main Administration for Planning and Social and Economic Development of the APK of USSR Gosagroprom N. V. Averyanov delivered a report on "The Tasks for Improving Planning for the Economic and Social Development of Enterprises and Organizations and Rayon and Oblast

Agroindustrial Associations in Light of the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers Entitled 'Further Improvements in the Economic Mechanism for Management in the Country's Agroindustrial Complex'".

The following individuals participated in a discussion of the report during the plenary session: V.I. Drobot -- the chief of the Section for Planning methodology of Gosagroprom for the Ukrainian SSR; S.A. Zubenko -- chief economist of the Chigirinskiy RAPO [rayon agroindustrial association] in Cherkassy Oblast; E.S. Mashtavichyus -- chief of the Planning Section of Gosagroprom for the Lithuanian SSR; V.F. Bugakov -- chief of the Department for the Administration of Finances of USSR Gosagroprom (city of Ryazan); R.A. Dubovitskaya -- deputy chairman of the Neklinovskiy RAPO in Rostov Oblast; V.S. Tonkovich -- professor in a department of the Belorussian State Institute for the National Economy.

The principal work of the participants in the conference was carried out in sections in accordance with the following themes:

-- improvements in planning the economic and social development of rayon agroindustrial associations and oblast (kray, ASSR) agroproms;

-- improvements in planning the economic and social development of agricultural enterprises and their subunits;

-- principal trends in improvements in planning the economic and social development of enterprises which provide services for RAPO farms.

Based upon proposals expressed during the conference, its participants adopted recommendations for further improving planning for the development of enterprises, RAPO's and oblagroproms within the USSR Gosagroprom system. Drafts of annual and five-year production-financial plans and instructions for compiling them, developed by VNIIPIN of USSR Gosagroprom, were approved.

Taking into account the various comments overheard, the recommendation was made to have the institute prepare the planning documentation and thereafter submit it to USSR Gosagroprom for approval. The 1988 task calls for all enterprises, their subunits, organizations, rayon agroindustrial associations and the agroproms of oblasts, krays and ASSR's to be provided with unified and standardized documentation for current and long-range planning of their development under the new managerial conditions.

During the conference, special attention was given to those problems concerned with improving the normative method for planning state procurements of agricultural products. It was noted that the normative method for planning state procurements for 1987 and the 12th Five-Year Plan as a whole was employed extensively in oblasts, krays and rayons of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, Kirghiz SSR and Uzbek SSR. This was promoted by the introduction into planning practice in 1986 of the new "method for computing the control figures for procurements of agricultural products, made available to rayons and farms,

based upon norms which take into account an economic evaluation of the land and the availability of fixed productive capital and labor and other resources."

This method was developed by VNIIPIN jointly with other scientific-research institutes throughout the country, it was approved in June 1986 by USSR Gosplan and USSR Gosagroprom and it has been recommended for extensive use throughout the country when preparing control figures for procurements of agricultural products during the current five-year plan.

In their speeches, the participants in the conference expressed their opinions regarding the new method, one which makes it possible to develop equally tense procurement plans while taking into account the potential opportunities and prospects for developing the economies of agricultural enterprises based upon the intensive use of available production resources. Thus, in the speech delivered by the chief of the Methodology Planning Section of Gosagroprom for the Ukrainian SSR V.I. Drobot, emphasis was placed upon the fact that during the 1987-1990 period the republic's rayons and farms will be provided with planned procurement volumes for agricultural products based upon norms which take into account their production resources in accordance with the new method. However, it is his opinion that a number of aspects of this method are in need of further refinement and concrete definition.

Workers attached to Gosagroprom for the Ukraine have introduced their own corrections into this method in conformity with the local conditions. As a result, an opportunity has appeared for determining in a more accurate manner the resource potential of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in those instances where inter-farm enterprises sell their products in behalf of fulfillment of the plans of participating farms. Here the resource potential of the inter-farm enterprises is distributed among the participating farms proportional to the volume of products sold in behalf of their plans. In addition, it was proposed that the working capital structure take into account the water used for irrigation from state irrigation systems.

V.I. Drobot reported on some other refinements for the new method. In the interest of coordinating more closely the volumes of the planned tasks for procuring products with the availability of production resources, it was recommended that in those areas where it is feasible to do so the farms and rayons should be grouped taking into account the natural-economic conditions, specialization and the level of resource potential and that differentiated procurement norms per 1000 rubles of resource potential should be developed for them. Such a methodological approach will make it possible to provide the rayons and enterprises with more valid plans for the procurement of agricultural products. In Gosagroprom for the Ukrainian SSR, additional tables were developed for the methodological instructions, tables which promote to a considerable degree improvements in the quality of the computations of resources potential and procurement norms.

A creative approach, one which takes into account the local conditions and peculiarities, is being employed in other regions of the country in connection with use of the mentioned method. The Kazakhstan SSR developed its own

approach for a monetary evaluation of low productivity pastures; in Krasnodar Kray, grain units are being employed for converting products into comparable values.

During the conference, a recommendation was introduced, in a new form for the production-financial plan of an agricultural enterprise, which called for special tables for the computations of production potential, for use when providing the kolkhozes and sovkhoses with plans for state procurements of agricultural products and also when defining the financial relationships with the budget.

At the same time, it was noted during the conference that the normative-resource method for planning procurements is still not being employed in a number of regions throughout the country and that the plans for procuring agricultural products for the 12th Five-Year Plan, using the traditional method, differ from those already "achieved." Such incidents have taken place in the Belorussian, Armenian, Azerbaijan, Georgian and Turkmen union republics and also in some oblasts in the Kazakh SSR.

In a number of regions throughout the country, the introduction of the normative-resource method for planning procurements is being hindered by such factors as the absence of or low quality of land evaluative work for certain types of agricultural land; inadequate experience of some workers attached to the economic services of agroproms, RAPO's and also planning committees in the collection and processing of initial information concerned with the resource potential of enterprises and rayons. In addition, the work is being held up by sluggishness and a lack of desire on the part of some workers to reject the obsolete method of handling procurements based upon results "already achieved."

Recommendations of an organizational nature were expressed during the conference, the realization of which will make it possible to expand the use of the normative-resource method for planning procurements. Thus many agricultural enterprises and rayons throughout the country require the carrying out of land-evaluative work by the appropriate organizations in the near future.

Ideally, in the opinion of the participants in the conference, skilled training involving the use of scientists should be organized for workers attached to the economic services and planning committees, especially in those regions where the normative-resource method of planning is still not in use.

The participants in the conference developed recommendations for further improving planning for the economic and social development of enterprises, their subunits, RAPO's and oblagroproms during the 12th Five-Year Plan, the

implementation of which will promote a reorganization of the economic mechanism for management and a successful solution for the country's Food Program.

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MURAKHOVSKIY RESPONDS TO READER QUERIES ON ECONOMIC MEASURES

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 1 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by V. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman, USSR Council of Ministers, chairman, USSR Gosagroprom: "Face to Face with a Contract Collective"]

[Text] The USSR Gosagroprom Board has examined measures to respond to criticisms in letters workers have written to SELSKAYA ZHIZN regarding improvements in the organization of cost accounting, brigade and family contract at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Above all, this involves: the critical article "We Tried and Worked, but were Considered 'Grabbers'" by A. Voronin, manager of a collective brigade at the Prishnenskiy Sovkhoz in Tula Oblast, and letters the editors received from Bashkiriya, Altayskiy Kray, Kurgan, Chelyabinsk, Gorkiy, Tambov and other oblasts and krays in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Kazakhstan and the Transcaucasian republics.

The Gosagroprom board admits the letters contain accurate criticism about agro-industrial management organs. Inspections have shown that at a number of farms there is still only formal work on mastering cost accounting and collective and family contracts. Contract collectives do not always have guaranteed supplies of fertilizers, feeds and other resources. Sometimes prices paid for products are changed unnecessarily or without the collective's knowledge. There are often violations of established procedures for setting norms. At some kolkhozes and sovkhozes contractual relations are based upon obsolete forms of management and work organization and payment. There is no payments for output and credit is still made "from the wheel". In such cases the new form essentially covers the old content. All this brings justified censure from rural workers.

In work with contract links, brigades and animal farms administrativism is often allowed, there are violations of democratic management principles and labor collectives role belittles and their rights infringed upon.

As the board stressed, one of the reasons for contract formations' low efficiency is that in many cases farm specialists only formally approach the formation of contract collectives. Most union republics, krays and oblasts are not really engaged in creating collectives for highly productive work. This was especially noted in the CPSU Central Committee Decree "On Urgent Measures to Improve Labor Productivity in Agriculture Based upon the Introduction of

Rational Forms for its Organization and Cost Accounting". Very little work is being done to convert to paying labor from gross income in the RSFSR, Belorussia, the Kazakh SSR, the republics of Central Asia and Transcaucasia. The check form of cost control is being slowly introduced in the Uzbek SSR, Azerbaijan SSR, Latvian SSR, Tadjik SSR and many RSFSR oblasts and krais.

Even though family contract has shown its high efficiency, as a whole union republic gosagroproms are not giving this type of production organization the necessary attention. The needed conditions are not created for these collectives. Contractual obligations are often violated. Family contracts cover practically no sunflowers and very few vegetable and animal farms.

One serious shortcoming in the introduction of collective contracts and cost accounting is that the center of gravity for organizational work has not been shifted directly to labor collectives, which decide the fate of the harvest, the productivity of animal husbandry and the farm economy. The human factor is not fully effective.

There is still much formalism in training cadre in the economic mechanism for operations, collective contract and cost accounting. This is often done in a stereotyped manner, without specific study of new situations and is not based upon the experiences of farms which have achieved high results. Scientific support for collective contract and cost accounting remains weak.

All this leads to slow growth in labor productivity, low returns from the productive potential created in the countryside, to high production costs, losses or low profitability at large numbers of kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

The board directed union republic gosagroprom managers' attention to the low levels of organizational work on introducing collective contract and economic accounting, to their inaccessible, formal-administrative introduction of contracts, failure to observe contractual conditions with labor collectives, having a command attitude towards them and not observing principles of material incentives.

It was suggested that Gosagroprom committees and associations critically examine the situation regarding the mastery of collective contract and cost accounting at each kolkhoz and sovkhos in light of demands made at the 23 January 1987 CPSU Conference. Farms which are still only using contracts in a formal manner and which show low production efficiency should be placed under special control. Organization, structure and interfarm economic ties, material incentives and the observation of basic contract principles should be examined at each farm.

The board demanded that Gosagroprom organizations carefully read all articles in the press and letters from workers which reveal serious shortcomings and oversights in work with contract brigades, links and family collectives and, without delay, take specific and effective measures.

It was decided to conduct complete monthly reviews of the correctness with which material incentives were provided to workers in contract units, to take measures to more completely and effectively use these incentives and to

eliminate shortcomings here. Special attention was directed to the economic substantiation of cost accounting targets and to the organization of reliable accounts.

The board demanded that payments in kind made to contract collectives be in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decrees. There should be widespread payment of all categories of workers at kolkhozes and sovkhoses from farm gross income, so that even this year each rayon acquire experience in using this progressive form and that it will hence become the basic system for material incentives.

Provisions were made to increase brigade and farm councils' role in production management. It was decided to introduce a procedure in which brigade and link production plans will be approved only after their discussion and approval by labor collectives and to assure that their managers are elected.

The board demanded that this year local Gosagroprom organs take specific measures to organize highly productive collectives for crop and animal production and that the conditions necessary for their efficient work be created. Measures should be taken for the universal conversion to check payments during 1987-1988 and, on this basis, assuring the economical expenditure of material-monetary resources and reductions in production costs. It was decided to have monthly reexaminations of the list of base farms for the introduction of collective contract and intrafarm accounts and to assure the effective contract work of all structural units in main and auxiliary production operations. Kolkhoz, sovkhos and agroprom specialists are to increase the responsibility for mastering contracts and cost accounting at their sections and to assure the precise interaction of bookkeeping, economic and technical services.

The board demanded that units in USSR Gosagroprom draw systematic conclusions from positive experience, determine the direction in the development of progressive forms for work organization and incentives and quickly make suggestions to strengthen positive tendencies and eliminate shortcomings in the introduction of contracts and the use of economic methods. Measures will be taken to strengthen organizational work on the widespread introduction of intensive technologies in combination with cost accounting and collective contracts, and to widely apply family and individual contracts.

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BSSR APK OFFICIAL ON NORM PLANNING, SELF-FINANCING PROBLEMS

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 14, Apr 87 p 10

[Article by V. Lupach, deputy chairman of the Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee on the Economy, Grodno: "Has Everything Been Turned Inside Out in Norms?" first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] The objectiveness of the norm planning base enables us to determine real possibilities for each enterprise and rayon, and to correctly establish the most important economic indicators. What has been done in this area?

In our oblast we have begun using the norm-resource method for making assignments to rayons regarding the sale of agricultural products to the state. We have utilized an accessible and simple method--the measurement of agricultural lands. Its essence is the fact that all agricultural lands are translated into comparable lands, with a consideration of their economic evaluation (in terms of productivity), availability of capital and availability of labor.

It must be said that we have found considerable differences in the volume of procurement calculated according to the principle used previously. The grain procurement plan in Volkovysskiy Rayon turned out to be elevated by 3,200 tons, and in Grodnenskiy Rayon--by 1,000 tons. In other words, the norm-resource method has enabled us to determine the true production potential of the enterprise. However, we must say directly that in this area there are still many shortcomings.

For example, let us look at the norm-resource method for planning the procurement of the basic types of agricultural products during the 12th Five-Year Plan, as recommended by Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee] and USSR Gosplan. In establishing procurement volume for rayons using this method, here is what happens. In those places where resource potential during the accounting period was not utilized to capacity, rayons (enterprises) are subject to extensive growth in the procurement volume of agricultural products expressed in cost terms. This type of approach is correct, logical, and forces us to think about the best use of existing possibilities.

But the final stage of determining procurement by rayons using natural indexes cancels out all work dealing with the calculation of resource potential. The

fact is that in the given case emphasis is placed on the achieved level of production sales for the last 5 years. This means that rayons with lower sales are in better shape. In this way the significance of the given method, the goal of which is to equalize possibilities in the use of existing production potential, is lost. Also, no consideration is made of changes in the specialization of enterprises and an unchanging influence of resource-formation factors on the determination of plan indicators is assumed.

The utilization of norms in planning practices is also made difficult by the fact that the forms used for production-financial plans for agricultural enterprises require the detailed elaboration of most of the items dealing with expenditures and necessities in both natural and well as cost form.

For example, in determining the prime cost of grain production it is essential to calculate expenditures for wages, seed, oil and lubricating materials, fertilizer, transportation by motor vehicle, amortization of fixed capital, ongoing repairs of capital, insurance payments, and other fixed expenditures as well as general economic and production expenditures. Moreover, this must be done for both winter and spring crops although some items of expenditure equal only 100-200 rubles when a sowing area is small.

Naturally, the use of norms in the given case becomes difficult. In our opinion, it is essential to group expenditure items into no more than three groups--wage payments, material expenditures and overhead. In this case it is possible to elaborate enlarged norms, which will enable us to introduce them unhindered into planning practice. We should also calculate prime cost on the whole for grain and legume crops without making subgroups of winter and spring crops. This type of curtailment of planning indexes can be implemented for a number of other plan sections, which will give us the opportunity to utilize norms more widely.

Unfortunately, it must be noted that there are still no norms yet to determine the volume of capital investments and deliveries of fixed types of material resources, and this hinders the introduction of the new planning method.

Further improvements in the management of the agro-industrial complex, the elimination of departmental separateness, interrelations between enterprises and the state and higher organizations on an objective normative basis will enable us to increase the responsibility of kolkhozes and sovkhoses for the end results of operations. It will become possible to introduce cost accounting and the transition of all enterprises and subdivisions of the agroprom to the principles of self-supporting production [samookupayemost] and self-financing not formally but genuinely.

Of course in and of itself the norm-resource planning method does not directly assure production growth. But it does facilitate the exposure of existing potential in enterprises and provides the opportunity to evaluate the level of its use. At the contemporary stage, when the material-technical base of the agricultural sector and of interdependent branches is growing significantly, the organization of production in the widest sense of the word becomes the

priority task. Practical experience convincingly shows that in those enterprises where this goal is dealt with comprehensively, great results are achieved in production and financial operations.

Progress Kolkhoz of Grodnenskiy Rayon can serve as an example. Here powerful production potential has been created. For every 100 hectares of agricultural lands we have 365,000 rubles of fixed production capital earmarked for agricultural purposes. The capital-labor ratio equals 19,000 rubles and energy available per worker--62,800 horsepower. All production and service subdivisions have made the transition to intra-enterprise cost accounting. Wages for labor collectives will depend on the end results. Constant controls over the efficient and economic use of material resources has been organized with the use of a check method for accounting for expenditures. The enterprise is increasing production from year to year.

Last year in the kolkhoz each hectare yielded over 59 quintals of grain, 458 quintals of potatoes and 455 quintals of sugar beets. In general the productivity of a hectare of agricultural lands equalled 66.6 quintals of feed units, and of arable land--74.2 quintals of feed units. Profits equalled 8.5 million rubles and profitability--54.4 percent. Labor productivity increased by almost 7 percent as compared to last year. The enterprise has 2.9 million rubles of its own income to dispose of.

We can provide other examples of the highly effective use of production potential on the basis of improvements in the organization and reimbursement of labor.

However, it cannot but be noted that with the transition of kolkhozes and sovkhoses to self-financing and self-supporting production there are many difficulties and unsolved problems. In our opinion, one of the hindrances is the limited volume of capital investments into building and into the acquisition of equipment and materials. The situation is such that even if kolkhozes and sovkhoses have their own sources for financing, they still do not have the possibility of expending money for these purposes in an amount above the limit established "above."

Here is another problem. We know that with self-financing, the sources used to cover expenditures for capital investments are amortization of fixed capital, the profits of the enterprise and Gosbank credit, which is repaid to the government according to a pre-agreed upon schedule. The amount of credit is determined according to the difference between the volume of capital investments and the existing sum of amortization deductions and profits. This means that the bank must extend a loan for the total lacking capital. But how can it decide this if the amount of credit is strictly limited within the republic, oblast or rayon? While establishing a single system for issuing credit by USSR Gosbank, including to kolkhozes, we feel that it is essential to carefully develop a system for creating norms relating to the enterprise's own working capital with a consideration of the conditions and nature of agricultural production.

Of course the transition to self-supporting production and self-financing are encouraged by progressive forms of organization and wage payments. Cost

accounting and collective contracts are being introduced in the oblast's enterprises. The practice of assigning areas in sugar beets, feed root crops, potatoes, vegetables and other crops to individual workers under contract conditions has become more widespread. Family contracts are being utilized on livestock farms. A two-shift work regimen is being instituted.

At the same time, an analysis of the work of contract subdivisions during the last year has turned up some shortcomings. Errors have been tolerated in material-technical supply of labor collectives. Those who were doing the actual work were not always involved in the elaboration of technological maps and cost-accounting tasks. The organization of control over the utilization of material expenditures was a weak link in the work to introduce contracts and improve intra-enterprise cost accounting. These shortcomings were discovered in the course of certifying production subdivisions and were evaluated on principle in the RAPO [Rayon Agro-Industrial Association] and in the oblast agro-industrial committee.

Certification of production subdivisions is carried out in accordance with a resolution of the board of the BSSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the Presidium of the Belorussian Republic Committee of the Trade Union for APK [Agro-Industrial Complex] workers. Within the RAPO committees have been formed from among specialists, headed by the deputy chairman of the association.

The goal of certification is to bring out the degree to which organizational-economic conditions and needs correspond to the activities of contract subdivisions, and how contractual relations are developed and implemented between contract collectives and management organs of the enterprise's administration. Nine percent of structural subdivisions in farming and livestock raising did not pass certification. Today councils of rayon agro-industrial associations and oblagroprom are giving practical aid to kolkhozes and sovkhoses where such subdivisions have been found in the areas of organization of contract brigades and links and of developing contractual relations and determining the system of material compensation for labor.

The intensification of branches of farming and livestock raising and the introduction of progressive forms of labor organization and stimulation facilitates growth in production effectiveness. For the first time last year the productivity of grains surpassed 31 quintals per hectare on the average in the oblast. The farmers of Grodno Oblast excelled especially. Here on each hectare they harvested 40 quintals of grain.

Livestock farmers have brought us satisfaction. They have surpassed the 3,000 kilogram mark in milk yield per cow.

During the second year of the five-year plan the oblast's village workers plan to produce 33 quintals of grain per hectare and 3,225 kilograms of milk per cow, and to raise labor productivity by 13 percent.

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DANGER OF FLOODING IN ZAPOROZHYE OBLAST OF UKRAINE

Kiev SILSKI VISTI in Ukrainian 7 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by V. SIMICHYCH, based on interview V.I. ARINCHENKOV, first deputy, Zaporozhye Oblast Obkom]

[Text] Careful preparations have been made to avoid a repetition of the type of disaster caused by flooding the year before last, since the prognosis of spring thawing this year is even more ominous. The steps to be taken were discussed at the January meeting of the oblast commission dealing with natural disasters in order to minimize the damage caused by flooding and ice movements.

Measures have been taken to lower the water level in all reservoirs and ponds. Ravines have been cleared and are being monitored. The snow has been plowed on the fields and slopes. Jetties have been repaired and new ones constructed. The Oblagroprom has designated safe areas for cattle at the various farms.

Everything possible is being done to prevent a significant rise in the water level of rivers. However, it is obvious that with intensive thawing a rise in the water volume cannot be prevented. Consequently, residents of areas that are at risk have been advised to be ready for an evacuation. Boats and other equipment will be concentrated in the threatened areas. This applies primarily to the southern rayons: Berdyanskiy, Kamyansko-Dnieprovskiy, Primorskiy, and Tokmatskiy. Reports are being received daily from these rayons on the work being done.

In the Berdyanskiy Rayon the water levels in the reservoirs have already been lowered and the water rescue equipment readied. In the Kamyansko-Dnieprovskiy Rayon water is being drained from the Bilozerskiy estuary and ponds and jetties are being constructed. Stationary and mobile pumping stations have been prepared. Pipelines and drainage systems are being cleared to the Kakhovka reservoir. Every building in a village threatened by flooding has been supplied with sand for sandbagging.

In Primorskiy Rayon ice is being cleared from outlets and waterways of Obtichna river, and areas in danger of flooding are being sandbagged. Water-conducting trenches have been dug, more than a thousand cubic meters of granite dust have been delivered, and 20 pumping stations have been put in readiness.

Similar information is coming from other rayons. The people have received instructions on what to do in any eventuality. The main requirements are for efficiency and discipline in order to carry out the flooding control measures.

FLOODING IN KHARKOV OBLAST OF UKRAINE

Kiev SILSKI VISTI in Ukrainian 11 Mar 87 p3

[Article by S. Tsanko, based on interview with O.S. Maselskiy, head, Kharkov Obkom]

[Text] In view of the fact that more than a thousand tons of snow have accumulated per hectare in the Kharkov Oblast, flooding is expected with the spring thawing. An oblast commission has been created to deal with the problem, which is headed by Ye.F. Lukashenko, deputy head of the Obkom. Plans have been formulated to protect agricultural facilities, settlements, and water works. The hydro-meteorological service has identified potential flooding sites, sites on rivers susceptible to blockage by ice, and is monitoring reservoirs, ponds, and irrigation systems. In addition, the jetties of 475 ponds with insufficient water outlets have been reinforced.

The areas at risk of flooding encompass 276 settlements, consisting of a total of 17,000 buildings, 56,000 residents, 55 agricultural installations, 90 farms and 160 barns.

Evacuation sites have been designated. Mineral fertilizers and toxic chemicals have been removed from warehouses at risk of flooding. Special monitoring brigades have been established at every state and collective farm that have been supplied with bags of sand, rubble, and slag. A recent visit to a number of villages in the Balakliyskiy, Izyumskiy and Chuguyevskiy rayons, regions where the most extensive flooding is expected to occur, has shown that appropriate precautions have been taken in most cases. For example, at the 19-y Partzyizd collective farm in the Balakliyskiy Rayon the dairy farm is located on fields subject to spring floods by Severskiy Donets river. Areas have been designated for safe-keeping of the cattle and elevated storage bins for fodder have been prepared. Transportation and housing have been provided for the evacuees.

The Kharkov Oblast now has 913 emergency teams consisting of construction workers, drivers, rescue workers, physicians, and so forth. They are equipped with tractors, bulldozers, motor pumps, and motorized rowboats. Civil aviation will also be included in these efforts. Special trains have been organized to counteract the effects of flooding on the railways. Waterworks and mines have been cleared. Large reservoirs have been prepared to accommodate large masses of water. To that end, their water levels have been lowered. In addition, snows at collective

and state farms have been plowed to ensure maximum saturation of the fields with water.

Reliable radio and telephone communication networks have been established among the rayons and the villages. At places where the evacuees will be relocated food and industrial goods have been stored. Mobile trade and medical services will be available. In short, everything possible has been done to make certain that the productive capacity of the Kharkov region will not be affected.

12172

CSO: 1811/014

SPRING FLOODING IN UKRAINE

Kiev SILSKI VISTI in Ukrainian 4 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by M. Taranchenko]

[Text] The meeting of the government commission on dealing with natural phenomena was reminiscent of the planning conducted by a military staff. There were no long talks. The speech by M.P. Skrypyk, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Administration for Hydrometeorology and Control of Natural Phenomena, had been received beforehand -- as were other pertinent data -- for thorough review and analysis. The oblast representatives then reported on on-site preparedness. There were no wasted words. The situation in some regions was quite serious.

In February the snow cover became more compact, making possible a more definitive analysis of their water content. In just about every case the estimated water reserves were higher than the average for the past few years. In the entire West-Bank Ukraine and the Eastern oblasts the volume of accumulated moisture was 2- to 2.5-fold greater than normal. Obviously, this huge mass of snow will not move like an avalanche, but dissolve into millions of streams under the influence of spring sunshine that, for the most part, will find their way into the rivers of the Northern Donets basin.

When can flooding be anticipated to end? Probably by March 10-15. However, complications have to be anticipated, particularly in the form of rains. This was the reason for the meeting of the oblast representatives, not only to gain information, but also to formulate plans of action with the appropriate ministries.

The general consensus was that the oblast authorities were prepared for action. Boats with ice-breakers have been provided on rivers threatened with blockage. In addition, relocation facilities have been provided in localities in danger of flooding, and supplied with all the necessary goods and services. Such points have been established in areas in danger of complete isolation.

The meeting operated in the unique spirit of 'heroism of anticipation'. This fact reflected awareness of the currently critical situation.

In his closing remarks P.Ye. Yesipenko, head of the commission and deputy head of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, noted that we frequently attribute heroic qualities to those who render help in times of flooding and work to over-

come its ravages. However, such heroism often has to be displayed to overcome the negligence and indifference of others who permitted such catastrophes to happen. This fact underscores the importance of anticipation and preventive measures that are designed to minimize economic losses and preserve human life. Consequently, in the time available all efforts must be expended to carry out the plans of the oblast commissions. Areas and facilities at risk of flooding must be identified, round-the-clock monitoring posts have to be established, and radio and telephone communication networks have to be provided. Production must not suffer, particularly as animal husbandry is concerned. Feed has to be relocated in safe places and cattle evacuation has to be on a stand-by basis of readiness. Civil defense and medical services have to be coordinated. To avoid repetition of unpleasant events, as was the case in previous years, the population has to be kept informed of all developments. In other words, everything possible must be done to minimize the effects of a natural disaster.

The meeting ended. But all who participated in it were impressed with the urgency of doing their utmost as long as there was time.

12172

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HEAVY SNOWS, AGRICULTURAL PROGNOSIS

Kiev SILSKI VISTI in Ukrainian 28 Feb 87 p 3

[Interview with Yevhen Iva vich Koryahin, chairman, Donetsk Oblast Commission for Flood Control, and deputy chairman, Donetsk Oblast Executive Committee, conducted by M. Nechipurenko]

[Text] We have analyzed the hydrometeorological conditions and have formulated a prognosis. The snow cover in the Donetsk Oblast ranges from 40 to 60 centimeters. This means that the water potential of the snow cover is on the order of 2.6 billion cubic meters. It has been calculated that thawing will increase the water input of rivers by almost two billion cubic meters, and of the reservoirs and ponds by half a billion cubic meters. In fact, water has already been released from the latter.

However, difficulties can be anticipated from the fact that the water levels in the rivers Kalnius, Krynka, Kryvyi Torets and Hruzkiy Yalanchik are expected to increase by three to four meters, and by seven meters in the case of Kazennyi Torets and Mius. Flooding may occupy an area of over 600 square kilometers with a population of 152,000. In other words, floods will cover some 337 settlements, 880 km of automobile roads, and 40 km of railroad tracks, as well as 311 agricultural objects, including farms holding more than 100,000 head of cattle.

For example, in the Velykonovosilkovskiy Rayon flooding will occupy 125 square kilometers, including 28 settlements. In the Amvrosiyevskiy Rayon floods are expected to affect 12 settlements.

At the present time we are monitoring the thawing process. At the first sign of danger some 6,000 residents will be evacuated from these rayons, as well as all the cattle. The Shakhtarskiy, Telmanovskiy, and Telmanovskiy rayons may also be at risk, as well as the cities of Zhdanov, Druzhkivka, Konstantinovka, Slovyansk and others.

We are quite realistic about the dangers that we may face in the next few days. In addition, we also have last year's losses of 25,000,000 rubles as a reminder of what we may face.

In order to control flood damage we have established 1600 teams encompassing almost 60,000 men, equipped with the necessary transportation and water rescue

equipment.

All of the rayon and urban commissions for flood damage control are ready to carry out evacuations and resettlements, and the protection of material goods. The waterworks and flood control devices and measures are being monitored and maintained.

A number of the rayons of the oblast center are at risk, as are electric power substations. Measures are already being implemented to divert the waters. Most of the water shall be diverted into special canals. However, the volume of water is expected to exceed their capacity. In addition, flooding is expected to affect the main pumping station and eight substations. At the present time they are being reinforced and additional pumps are being installed. Everything possible is being done to divert the waters into the river Kalmius. The Donbaskanalbud administration is constructing additional water channels. The river is also under evaluation and measures have been taken to lower the water level.

It has been estimated that at the height of thawing the flow rate in Kalmius shall be 35 meters per second. Consequently, within the city area its level may rise by two meters. Flooding threatens not only the industrial plants, but also residential areas on Pukhov, Bagration, Richka and other streets. The residents have already been alerted to the problem and accommodations have been provided at hotels, dormitories, and other establishments.

Every manager is prepared for anything that may develop. At the collective and state farms generators have been provided to supply electricity so that farm work may continue without interruption.

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TIMELY COMPLETION OF SPRING FIELD WORK

Kiev SILSKI VISTI in Ukrainian 17 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] It is already apparent that field spring work this year will be difficult. In many Ukrainian oblasts, especially in the south, winter crops could not be sowed on many fields because of inadequate moisture levels, and that some of the winter crops entered winter in a weakened state. Consequently, at some farms it will be necessary to do some additional sowing or resowing.

Every winter day must be devoted to ensuring a future harvest. This applies primarily to maintenance of powerful tractors used to pull heavy equipment. It is this type of tractor that will decide the success or failure of spring sowing.

Another area of great concern is seed quality. The situation is not satisfactory at many farms in the Odessa region. However, is it possible that this is of no concern to the oblast agroindustrial committee and its head, comrade Y.Ya. Sichuk? The enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture also appear to be working at a snail's pace. Only managerial irresponsibility and indifference of the specialists could account for the fact that at the Andrushev grain receipt enterprise in the Zhitomir region the cleaning station stood unused for twenty days.

We must be well prepared for intelligent use of the intensive agrotechnologies. This is equally applicable to the winter and the spring crops. At many farms and research establishments intensive agrotechnologies were developed last year for the cultivation of peas, barley and, naturally, corn. Willingness and a scientific approach will yield additional grain harvests. Consequently, winter must be utilized to teach the farmers the fine points of progressive agrotechnology. One of the best ways to learn is from successful examples.

Spring is at hand!

Let's get the most from every winter day.

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HOG BREEDING DEVELOPMENT VIEWED

RSFSR Problems, Outlook

Moscow SELSKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO ROSSII in Russian No 2, Feb 87 pp 45-47

[Article by Y. Rudenko, chief, Subdepartment for Hog Breeding Complexes, RSFSR Gosagroprom: "Industrial Hog Breeding: Problems and Prospects"]

[Text] In the past 10 years hog breeding in the Russian Federation has developed in two directions: First there was the intensive construction of large, state, kolkhoz and interkolkhoz industrial type complexes; second, there was the broad scale reconstruction and expansion of existing pig farms, increasing their capacity to 12,000 and more head annually. In a comparatively short time a production base for industrial hog breeding was created, undoubtedly, accelerating production growth. In 10 years it increased more than 4 fold at complexes alone, their share in public sector hog production reaching 38 percent and in some regions even higher: in Belgorod Oblast, for example, it was 94 percent, in Vologda Oblast -- 73 percent, in Kostroma Oblast, 71 percent and in Khabarovsk Kray -- 82 percent.

At the beginning of last year about 1,000 hog breeding complexes and large kolkhoz animal farms were using industrial flow line technology. These produced more than half the pork produced in the public sector. A million tons annually were produced at large state, kolkhoz and interkolkhoz complexes.

This is understandable: industrial production methods give greater returns in than do tested, but clearly obsolete hog breeding methods. Labor productivity at complexes is 3.4 fold higher than at sovkhov animal farms and 9.4 fold higher than at kolkhoz farms. Each hog at a complex yields 1.8 fold more pork than at ordinary kolkhozes and sovkhoves while feed consumption per unit of output is 35 percent lower.

Today one can name dozens of excellent hog breeding complexes. For example, production capacity has been mastered by the complexes at the Industrialnyi Sovkhoz in Krasnodar Kray, the Luzinskiy Sovkhoz in Omsk Oblast and at a number of others. One should give a more detailed description of the complex at the Sovkhoz-Kombinat imeni 50 Years of the USSR in Gorkiy Oblast so that the reader can clearly see all the enterprise's advantages.

Two complexes, for 108,000 head each, were built at the Sovkhoz. Last year they accounted for about half of the pork produced in this oblast's public sector. Output is 174 kilograms per each initial head, 4.5 quintals of feed units were consumed per quintal of live weight gain, labor productivity was 2.6 person hours and production costs 96 rubles per quintal. The sovkhaz obtained 34.6 million rubles in profits from pork sales.

Each complex has a reproduction sector and a feeding sector. The animals are housed in 16 buildings connected by galleries through which animals can be shifted for production purposes. Utilities are in the galleries. Feed shops are in five separate buildings. Also, there is a veterinary block, a machine shop and administrative building. A mixed feed plant, a meat plant and a cleaning facility for sanitizing and utilizing manure are located nearby.

This arrangement of buildings and services, making up a powerful production unit, avoids product losses due to animals' movement from one building to another and their transportation to a meat kombinat. It also makes things easier for service personnel. They do not have to spend minutes and hours travelling. The successful arrangement also promotes the introduction of a single day production cycle.

Hogs of all sex and age groups are kept permanently indoors in the complex. During their nursing period sows are kept in a fixed position. Feeding is differentiated: Sucklings and weaned piglets obtain dry feeds, nursing sows -- moist mixtures and the remaining animals liquid feeds.

One of the most laborious processes -- removing manure -- is done hydraulically. Manure is transported through a system of canals to a sanitation facility where solid and liquid fractions are separate. The solids are hauled to fields and after biological treatment the liquids are used to water crops.

Every day in the complex 44 sows are inseminated and 33 farrow. At least 10 piglets are in each litter. Every day 310-315 piglets are taken away from their mothers and transferred for raising, 300-310 are put on feed and 300 hogs weighing 112-115 kg each are sent to the meat kombinat. Every year each sow has 2.25 litters on the average. Each sow is used for 2.5 years.

The mechanization and automation of production processes permits each operator to take care of 60 nursing sows with piglets, 560 gilts or 700-800 pregnant sows. Each operator handles 4,200 piglets on feed or 1,800 animals on feed. Both combines handle 170,000-190,000 annually.

The Sovkhoz-Kombinat imeni 50 Years of the USSR vividly shows how preferable large complexes are. If one adds that at such complexes there are complete solutions to questions of the social order, comfortable housing, specialists' and workers' initiative is not constrained, there is elbow room for young people's daring, then it would seem that the large complex is a panacea for all the negative phenomena, breakdowns and disruptions affecting hog breeding.

The facts are straightforward. Today large state hog complexes have only mastered 80 percent of their planned capacity. The main reason is incomplete

rations. Often they are not balanced for various nutrients. Most farms obtain mixed feeds which greatly deviate from norms: they do not contain enough amino acids, macro and micro nutrients. There are also batches of mixed feeds which are partially toxic.

Understandably, good farmers do not shut their eyes to this. Wanting to change the situation, they organize the cooking of mixed feeds at the complex and, together with zootechnicians, set additional norms for protein, vitamin and other additives. They prepare vitamin meal, green chop, and mixed silage, bring in dairy industry wastes and search for additional means to improve labor productivity. For example, at the Iskra Sovkhoz in Ryazan Oblast, the Permskiy in Perm oblast, the imeni 60 Years of the USSR in Chelyabinsk Oblast and at a number of others they have built special shops where succulent feed is ground up to a paste, permitting it to be distributed through the existing system. The animals like this feed and, as is said, its for their own good.

So it is. But who is keeping track of the concerns, extreme efforts and nervous energy going to correct mistakes? We still have the vicious practice where a complex obtains poor quality mixed feed and has to take it. You become ambitious but you're left with absolutely nothing. How can this be avoided?

Mixed feed quality could be improved if equal responsibility for it were placed in farms delivering the raw materials and enterprises preparing and storing it. The controlling basis for this should be a contract signed between the hog breeding complex and the mixed feed plant to cover questions on the material interest of the latter's workers in the quality of feeds delivered as determined by work results at the complex, following the example in Omsk Oblast.

Feed is only one problem, although a very important one. The development of industrial hog breeding is delayed by something else -- reductions in the productivity of the mother herd, and difficulty in finding replacement animals for it. Of course, one follows from the other. Science and practical experience clearly prove that errors in feeding and indoor keeping of animals reduce the reproductive capabilities of large numbers of boars and sows, weaken their resistance, lead to metabolic disturbances, diseases of the extremities and, as a result to premature culling. Sows experience reductions in fertility and milk output, causing reductions in litters. Piglets are sometimes born in a weakened condition or dead. Boars have reduced sexual activity and sperm production declines by 50 percent. It has also been established that in hot months in a heavy microclimate some sows and boars are subject to heat stress. They are also perniciously affected by the poor illumination, especially in monoblocks and large buildings.

To replace the mother herd it is necessary to have animals with strong constitutions, well adapted to these specific conditions and capable of withstanding physiological stress. Such animals can and must be bred at breeding operations within the complexes. I have already mentioned this in describing the Sovkhoz imeni 50 Years of the USSR. When raising young animals here they strictly observe breeding work methods, optimal conditions for keeping animals and rational feeding levels. All processes in herd reproduction are linked to the complex's production rhythm.

At the breeding operation of the Roshchinskiy Complex in the Bashkir ASSR the average annual number of hogs reaches about 4,500 animals, of which 200 are the main breed sows. Last year this complex supplemented the herd with 1,500 first class replacement hogs. Their average daily weight gain exceeded 500 grams and 4.4 quintals of feed units were used for each quintal of weight gain. It should be mentioned that "superideal" conditions were set up in the operation: This simply involved the systematic and planned implementation of recommendations and instructions and the animals were given the attention they required. Equally important, the animals spent time outside, ate as much green chop as they wanted and were put out on pasture.

There is thus no question that a modern hog breeding complex needs such a breeding operation. However, this is by no means understood in all oblasts.

A present day hog breeding complex is an enterprise equipped with complicated process and power engineering equipment. A standard complex for 108,000 head has 6,000 types of machines and automation devices. It has more than 100 kilometers of water pipes and heat lines. Electric power passes through various cables with a total length of 400 kilometers. The buildings contain about 2,500 electric motors with the appropriate control and protective accessories, 120 pumps and 1,400 electric ventilators. To maintain this gigantic "organism" in relative order and to keep it at approved norms, during the year the following was installed: 90 tons of galvanized pipe, 3 tons of wire, 12 kilometers of cables, 80 electric motors, 5,000 bearings, 1,500 kilometers of belts and much much more. We were compelled to meet 10-15 percent of these legal requirements.

Again, permit me to mention the "arithmetic average" good farmer at a complex who handles feed and who shows resourcefulness in the most extreme situations. However, even the most skilled kolkhoz mechanics cannot handle the ZBM-7 feed pump, for example, or can they conjure up steel pipe from out of the air. It is no reproach to the management of the Gubinskiy Sovkhoz in Belgorod Oblast to say that as a result of machinery and spare parts shortages the feed distribution system at the complex worked for a long time in a nonautomated mode. In addition to other problems this caused daily weight gain for animals on feed to decline to 539 grams, while the plan called for 637. This is only one example.

The preventive maintenance and repair situation is no better. Most farm managers are waiting for design organization's intelligent designs to reconstruct complexes for 54,000-108,000 head, as after 10 and more years of operation they require major repairs and equipment replacement. The sectional keeping of gilts and pregnant sows also needs reexamination. This would permit improvements in veterinary-preventive health work and adherence to the "empty-occupied" principle. However, these are still only dreams!

Similar complaints are being made about sanitation facilities. It is no mistake to say that Rybnadzor [Fisheries Inspectorate] is the biggest potential "opponent" of hog breeding complexes. The concentration of buildings in a small area leads to manure accumulation in amounts which threaten to pollute rivers and reservoirs. Even though they are huge and

expensive, existing sanitation facilities do not meet design parameters for purifying waste water. The situation is made more complicated by many large complexes such as the Vostochniy in Leningrad Oblast, the Industrialniy in Krasnodar Kray, the Dzemginskiy in Khabarovsk Kray and many others not having any land upon which to apply waste waters and to conduct veterinary-sanitation measures. Experience at the Luzinskiy Sovkhoz in Omsk Oblast and the Gubkinskiy in Belgorod Oblast shows that having land adjacent to a complex provides for biological cleaning of waste waters in addition to mechanical cleaning. These lands produce a fairly good yield of feed crops.

As has already been mentioned, in addition to large state complexes, in the RSFSR there are also kolkhoz, sovkhoz and interfarm enterprises. These are redesigned and expanded hog farms holding 12,000 and more animals. These enterprises have good production-technical facilities, are introducing flow line technology and are relatively highly mechanized. However, their labor productivity is 2.4 fold lower than at state complexes and feed consumption per unit of output is 41 percent higher. Again, this is explained by design organizations' major shortcomings. Why, did designers determine farms' technology and productivity from calculations for the use of special mixed feeds used in dry feeding. It turns out that that "special" and not so "special" mixed feeds were in short supply. Such reconstructed farms used their own feeds. This required the construction of additional feed shops, silage storage trenches, facilities for processing food wastes, etc. In addition, it was necessary to expand the planting of potatoes and feed root crops, store mixed silage, improve the production capacity for AVM [Not further identified] and purchase additional fuel for them. In other words the feed base required almost an emergency doubling or tripling of its capacity. This heavy burden fell on the shoulders of the farm. In recognition of specialists and workers at sovkhozes such as the Doronichi in Kirov Oblast, the Severniy Klyuch in Kuybyshev Oblast, the imeni V. I. Lenin in the Udmurt ASSR and others, one should note that they handled this load. For example, the Novgorodskiy Sovkhoz in that oblast produced almost 4,500 tons of pork in 1985, even though its planned capacity was 2,700 tons. It obtained almost 5.5 million rubles in profit from selling this pork. If the designers had not made obvious errors in the first stages of reconstruction the indicators would have been much higher!

All these problems vividly show that hog breeding in the republic requires bold, rational and rapid restructuring. Alas, so far it cannot be said that this is under way at full speed. The success of reconstruction depends entirely upon cadre and cadre policy, which are far from perfect. As is known, the work of an operator at a complex or a reconstructed farm, with its complicated equipment and automatic devices, is similar to the work of a highly skilled worker at a factory. However, can we confidently say that these operators' training is well organized? It is no secret that at some complexes operators are not selected according to their professional qualities, but simply because there are not enough applicants. Not only is equipment unreliable, but it breaks down quicker because of unskilled operation. It has long been time to open a permanent department for training such workers at higher educational institutions and to train them directly at production operations. The training of hog breeding complex cadre at rural professional-technical schools is beneath criticism.

During the 12th Five-Year Plan and up until the year 2000 it is intended to further develop industrial hog breeding through the reconstruction and expansion of existing animal farms at kolkhozes and sovkhoses, introduce progressive flow line technology with completely mechanized production processes and raise hogs using the farms' own feeds and optimal amounts of concentrates. It is also planned to considerably improve the work of large complexes and rapidly bring them up to planned indicators. Pig farmers face big tasks. Their successful solution will be a weighty contribution to the Food Program.

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BSSR Interfarm Efforts

Moscow SVINOVDSTVO in Russian No 2, Mar-Apr 87 pp 19-22

[Article by V. Semashko, sector chief, Belorussian Scientific Research Institute for the Economics and Organization of Agriculture; P. Dashkevich and N. Kolbasin, specialists, BSSR Gosagroprom: "On a Mechanized Basis"]

[Text] In the BSSR in recent years there has been a a lot of work to convert hog breeding to an industrial basis.

There has been an increase in the percentage of hog breeding done on an interfarm basis. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses cooperate with their financial and material resources so as not only to increase pork production, but to considerably reduce its material-monetary and labor costs. For example, the Yuzhnoye Interkolkhoz Enterprise (MKhP) in Pinskiy Rayon is capable of feeding 54,000 hogs annually. It was built with resources from 57 kolkhozes in 3 rayons in Brest Oblast and gets practically all its concentrated feeds from them. In 1985 total animal weight gain at the complex reached 5,365 tons, each quintal of which used 5.4 quintals of feed units, 4.1 quintals less than for participating farms. Average daily weight gain was 413 grams, including 544 grams for animals on feed. Labor outlays per 1 quintal of growth here were reduced almost 10 fold compared to those at participating farms and were 4.2 person hours, at a 123.4 ruble production cost per quintal.

Good indicators have been attained by the hog breeding complex at the Kolkhoz imeni Zhdanov in Berestovitskiy Rayon, which has already reached planned capacity (24,000 head fed annually). Thanks to its solution to the feed problem (both with regard to quantity and quality) and the precise observation of technological requirements, the average annual weight gain for animals at this enterprise was 539 grams, 5.5 feed units and 4.4 person hours were expended in producing 1 quintal of pork.

However, there are hog breeding complexes which are not working at full capacity and whose production indicators leave something to be desired. Naturally, investments for the construction of such facilities are not paid off within normal deadlines. The lump sum investments for building hog breeding

complexes are quite significant. It is therefore very important that all present complexes reach design indicators as soon as possible.

Feed is the main ingredient for solving this question. In this republic interfarm enterprises and large specialized farms for producing hogs on an industrial basis are supplied with concentrated feed mainly through three sources: production at their farms (if the complex is an integral part of a farm), centralized stocks of mixed feeds from cooperating participants and, mixed feeds from the state. A study of complexes operating on an interfarm basis shows that their own feeds account for about 30 percent, and mixed feeds supplied the complex from kolkhozes and sovkhoses 28 percent. The main source of mixed feed is the state. In recent years, especially in Bresk Oblast, there have been increased deliveries of grain feeds from cooperating participants.

Calculations show that to provide grain feeds to a 24,000 head hog breeding complex when the participants are simultaneously selling grain to the state the following must be true: grain crop yields on the order of 25 quintals per hectare, grain crops occupying 54 percent of the cropland, this requires 25,000-27,000 hectares, 12-13 cooperating farms, 5.5 quintals of grain per hectare withdrawn [izyatiye] for the needs of the complex; while grain removed [snyatiye] for state deliveries requires 16,000 - 17,000 hectares, 7-8 average size farms and 8.7-9 quintals per hectare.

As a rule, a 24,000 head pork production complex requires feed from farms in several rayons.

The need to completely supply feed to interfarm pork production enterprises and to hog breeding farms working on interfarm cooperation principles requires the development and introduction of economic relations which would interest kolkhozes and sovkhoses in delivering concentrates to the complex. This means additional payments for farms' delivering mixed feeds, accounting prices for grain feeds, remitting [otpisvaniye] the growth to cooperating participants, and distributing profits.

As is known, hog complexes, whether they are state or interfarm, directly or indirectly touch upon many farms' interests. Therefore, economic relationships should be structured so that the interests of all farms influenced by the complex will be strictly observed, and that not only will their outlays be compensated but they will also receive additional profits so that each farm's economic interests will not contract the objective process of the sector's industrialization, but will assist in its successful implementation.

In many cases the existing relationship for supplying the complexes with feed meet specific production conditions, increase the participants' interest in hog breeding enterprises' work and in increasing volume and improving quality.

Using the Yuzhnoye Interfarm Enterprise as an example, we will examine the essentials of solutions to this question of economic relationships under conditions of specialization, cooperation and industrialization in the sector.

In 1985 the Yuzhnoye used 29,162 tons of feed (in terms of feed units), 27,525 tons of these (94.4 percent) were concentrates. The complex's requirements for concentrated feeds were almost completely met by the redistribution of mixed feed stocks at kolkhozes and sovkhoses participating. For deliveries to the interfarm enterprise the cooperating farms received 2,063,000 rubles in profit. The Yuzhnoye was not given a plan for meat sales. The 5,600 tons of pork sold to the state were counted towards the participating farms' fulfillment of state plans. Low profit farms received almost 2 million rubles worth of markups over purchase prices for this meat.

The system of relationships in the Kopylskoye Pork Production Enterprise in Kopylskiy Rayon, Minsk Oblast has also justified itself. In 1985 12,191 tons of feed (in feed units), including 11,591 tons (95.1 percent) from participants, went to the hog herd. The interfarm enterprises pays state purchase prices to the farms for the mixed feeds they deliver. Also, the cooperating farms received 1,297,000 rubles profit, 227,000 rubles of which were redistributed for feed. In addition, the cooperating farms were also remitted 2,338 tons of meat.

Special attention should be directed to having more rational economic relations at special farms, which use their own resources to build hog breeding complexes. Most such farms have high density populations of other livestock. Therefore, they cannot supply more than 30-40 percent of hog breeding feed needs (even taking into account their being released from sales to the state). To supply these complexes with concentrated feeds, in a number of rayons (in particular in Minsk Oblast) conditions and volumes of delivering the lacking feeds have been worked out and approved by RAPO decisions.

According to these decisions farms of this type should pay feed suppliers a definite sum of the state price for grain and mixed feed. As calculations show, if special farms work successfully it is possible for them to pay farms 10-15 rubles per quintal for their mixed feeds. Accounting prices per quintal of delivered feed grain can reach 25-30 rubles.

Experience in organizing economic relations between farms supplying concentrated feeds and the Oktyabr Kolkhoz in Kletski Rayon, Minsk Oblast, performing the functions of interfarm pork production enterprises is of considerable interest in answering this question.

In order to supply hog feed, in 1985, together with the head farm, 3 participants (the Kolkhoz imeni Zhdanov, the Sovetskaya Belorussiya Kolkhoz and the Tucha Sovkhoz) supplied the complex 4,607 tons of concentrates.

It should be noted that the Zhdanov, Sovetskaya Belorussiya and the main farm were completely released from grain sales to the state. Their plans (totalling 3,023 tons) were distributed among remaining farms in the rayon proportional to the grain crop area, taking grain quality into account.

Accounts between the main farm and grain feed suppliers are settled in the following manner. The Oktyabr Kolkhoz pays 13.81 rubles per quintal for the grain which is sent to it instead of to the state. The main farm pays purchase prices plus an additional payment for grain feeds from participating farms.

These additional payments are based upon the profits obtained for each quintal of pork (100 rubles) and feed consumption per 1 quintal of output (7 quintals of feed units). Thus, an extra 14.2 rubles are paid for each quintal of grain.

While using assistance from participating farms to supply the hogs complex with grain, the Oktyabr Kolkhoz is working to strengthen its own feed base for the leading sector. As a result, last year 56.4 quintals feed units were obtained from each hectare of arable land, and, overall, 49 quintals from each hectare of agricultural land. There were also improvements in the protein supply.

In the immediate future the farm has the task of strengthening its specialization in order to more intensively develop hog breeding. The cattle herd will be reduced. It is planned to reduce sugar beet plantings and simultaneously expand the area planted to annual and perennial grasses. There are also provisions to expand grain crops to 58.7 percent of total arable land and increase their yields to 35 quintals per hectare. This will make it possible to provide the complex with almost 5,000 tons of grain annually. Perennial grasses will be planted on almost 300 hectares. By supplying seed from such grass to the state it will be possible to obtain 600 tons of mixed feeds annually. Grass meal will be an additional source for feed deliveries. It is planned to sell half of total production (1,200 tons) to the state and obtain the same amount of feed in exchange.

In 1985 the farm was able to send 6,716 tons of its own grain feeds and mixed feeds to the complex. In subsequent years there are provisions to supplement mixed feed shortfalls through participating farms.

Farm specialists and the economic service as a whole are searching for reserves to reduce feed production costs and increase returns. Special attention is given to the use of local feeds to compensate for expensive grain feeds. Major importance is placed upon expanding pulse crops and creating a reliable system for supplying green crops. In recent years field peas (*Pisum arvense*) have been getting an important role in feed production. They are quite prominent in creating reliable feed supplies. Every year a green chop mixture consisting of peas -- field peas -- vetch and peas -- field peas -- mustard is supplied to the mother herd and other hogs on feed in summer pens. When this was introduced in rations there was a considerable reduction in grain feeds. Hog weight gain did not decline and was at least 400 grams daily. In 1985 total production costs per 1 quintal of pork were 149.4 rubles, while if green chop was used in summer pens they were 20-25 rubles lower. Taking this into account, in 1986 the kolkhoz further expanded the use of summer pens.

In examining ways of improving the feed supply situation at complexes under conditions of rapidly developing production-economic ties it is advisable to point out that at farms with large industrial type hog breeding enterprises crop production should be subordinate to the interests of the leading sector.

To strengthen the feed base of special farms having complexes with a 24,000 head total annual capacity, it is, as a rule, advisable to release them from plans for selling grain, potatoes and other crop products to the state.

Obviously, the transfer of these plans to other farms should be accompanied by the introduction of the appropriate mutually advantageous accounts between cooperating participants. Definite work in this direction has been done in the republic. It is sufficient to note that this question has already been solved at half of the special farms. In such farms there is an expansion in the production of grass meal both for farms' own needs and for delivery to plants processing mixed feeds. At present each large specialized hog breeding farm produces about 500 and sells the state 240 tons of grass meal. In the immediate future there is a real possibility of almost doubling these indicators.

There is the task of more rationally using the feed grains obtained at specialized farms, keeping in mind that after milling they must be used with the required protein-vitamin and other additives.

Increasing kolkhozes and sovkhoses interest in making up for feed shortfalls will also help solve the question of the main farms' remitting returns from animal weight gain to the pork sales plans of cooperating participants.

The system of measures operating and being developed to increase the feed base for hog breeding complexes in the republic, including measures for cooperating farms to supply grain fed and to centralize mixed feed supplies belonging to kolkhozes and sovkhose will make possible a higher level solution to questions in the sector's further intensification and the successful fulfillment of plans.

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INTENSIFICATION OF LUPINE CULTIVATION NEEDED IN BSSR

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Apr 87 p 2

[Responses to previous article in SELSKAYA GAZETA entitled "Lupine: Are We Justified in Ignoring Its Advantages?" of 24 Dec 86 followed by "The Reader Continues the Dialogue," by A. M. Starovoytov, deputy chairman of BSSR Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee] and V. P. Samsonov, director of the BelNII [Belorussian Scientific Research Institute] of Farming: "Lupine: Are We Justified in Ignoring Its Advantages?" first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] "Lupine: Are We Justified in Ignoring Its Advantages?" was the title of an article published in SELSKAYA ZHIZN on 24 December 1986. This was followed by a selection of letters under the title "The Reader Continues the Dialogue", which consisted of a series of letters from scientists and practical workers. The editors have received responses from BSSR Gosagroprom and BelNNI of Farming on the problems we raised concerning the cultivation of lupine in the republic.

[Starovoytov] The publication was examined within BSSR Gosagroprom with the participation of the leading scientists of branch scientific-research institutes. The questions raised by the newspaper were recognized to be urgent. A thorough analysis was made of the production of feed protein and of the status of lupine sowing in the republic. Organizational and technical measures have been indicated to increase the production of legume crops, including lupine. Despite growth in feed production in recent years the problem of supplying livestock raising with feed protein has remained acute. In 1986 the shortage of digestible protein equalled 145,000 tons, and of this 68,000 tons were to be used to balance grain forage. Legumes yield 38,000 tons of protein, or 13 percent of that produced by grain-forage crops. This is without doubt an extremely low index. It is no accident that one feed unit in grain forage contains only 93 grams of digestible protein.

For this reason within the system of measures foreseen by the program of feed production it is planned to expand sowing area in legumes crops to 11-12 percent this year, to concentrate all grain forage crops with legume components, to increase the proportion of legumes within the structure of perennial grasses to 83 percent and to increase the area in rape for grain to 3 percent of arable land by 1990. Moreover, protein production will be

supplemented by means of expanding the area in high-protein barley varieties. This year the area in such varieties will reach 630,000 hectares, and by 1990--850,000 hectares. All of this will enable us to increase the amount of digestible protein per feed unit in the grain-forage portion of the ration to 114 grams.

The proportion of lupine in balancing grain forage with protein is now extremely low and comprises less than 1 percent, which does not correspond to the potential of this crop and to the characteristic fertility of the republic's soils. The area in lupine has been curtailed drastically in recent years. The main reason for this was the fact that average annual lupine production in 1981-1985 comprised only 7.9 quintals per hectare, which was 3.7 quintals lower than the levels for the Ninth Five-Year Plan.

A decrease in gross yield of lupine grain is based on a number of factors, including violations of cultivation technology and above all the lack of adherence to the alternation of crops in crop rotations in a number of kolkhozes and sovkhoses. However, the main hindrance to the intensification of lupine cultivation recently has been the considerable deterioration of the phytosanitary situation in connection with the accumulation in the soil of infectious fungal diseases and with the spread of viral diseases and stem miner flies in lupine. The absence of varieties that are relatively resistant to disease and pests has also had an effect.

Under the existing conditions of growth in the intensification of agricultural production the republic's scientific institutions were not able to restructure their work in accordance with production requirements. They dealt extremely slowly and considerably behind schedule with many urgent problems related to lupine cultivation. All of this had a negative effect on its condition.

The republic's gosagroprom is taking measures to improve the agrotechnical cultivation of lupine in production seeding. Oblast and republic agricultural services have strengthened controls over adhering to scientifically-based rotation of this crop. Work is being done on the possibility of introducing crop rotations with contour-ecological alternation of agricultural crops according to the experience of the Baltic republics. The drafts being composed as regards the organization of fields within enterprises, the correction of existing crop rotations and the implementation of liming of acidic soils foresee measures for the creation of the optimal conditions for lupine cultivation and for more complete supplies to lupine-cultivating enterprises as regards technical resources, fertilizers and pesticides in accordance with technology. The material-technical base of seed-farming enterprises is being strengthened. The work experience of leading kolkhozes and sovkhoses related to the cultivation of lupine is being generalized with the goal of training specialists of other enterprises.

The accelerated reproduction of new high-yield varieties which are relatively resistant to fusarial wilt, Kastrыchnik and BSKhA-382, has been organized on the fields of experimental bases and elite farms. Plans for the sale of elite seed of these varieties to kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been assigned.

Scientific-production associations are giving special attention to adhering to technological requirements in cultivating lupine on experimental bases and elite farms.

In accordance with a resolution by the BSSR Council of Ministers, reciprocal sales of mixed feeds for lupine seed that is sold is being implemented with the goal of providing economic incentives for the production of lupine seed. Procurement prices for Kastrыchnik and BSKhA-382 lupine seed have been increased by a factor of 1.5.

Taking into account the urgency of the problem being raised and with the goal of coordinating and studying the entire complex of questions on cultivating grain forage the republic has developed a scientific-technical program called "Legume Crops" for the period to 1990. It foresees a system of measures for the development and introduction under testing-production conditions of rapidly-maturing, high-yield varieties of legume crops which are resistant to the basic diseases and pests, and for the improvement and introduction of a technology for cultivating, harvesting, post-harvest processing and seed farming on an industrial base, which will ensure the production of 32-35 quintals of peas and vetch per hectare, 35 quintals of feed beans and 20-25 quintals of feed lupine, and a 12-15 percent growth in labor productivity.

A comprehensive solution to the problems of increasing lupine productivity will allow this crop to occupy a dependable place on the fields of the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

[Samsonov] SELSKAYA GAZETA has raised the very urgent problem of increasing the production of vegetable protein. Concern about the recent decrease in feed production of the role of feed lupine was justified, and the reasons for this kind of negative phenomenon were analyzed. Criticism was directed at science and in particular at the BelNII of Farming.

The status of lupine cultivation in the republic was examined at a meeting of the BelNIIZ scientists' council. Measures were indicated to intensify the breeding of European yellow feed lupine for green chop purposes and of narrow-leaved lupine--for grain forage purposes. Shortcomings in the development of technological methods for stabilizing lupine productivity were noted and a decision was made to generalize all scientific information available in the republic on the problems of sowing lupine and on this basis to make a proposal to production.

With the goal of accelerating the introduction into production of intensive cultivation technology a decision was made on the development, in leading lupine-cultivating enterprises, of schools of progressive experience in Oktyabr Kolkhoz of Kamenetskiy Rayon, Rossiya Kolkhoz of Dyatlovskiy Rayon and Sovetskaya Belorussiya Kolkhoz of Korelichskiy Rayon.

At the same time, the council of scientists noted that the absence of varieties and cultivation technologies that will guarantee stable and large lupine yields is to a large degree the result of neglect in the work of the republic's scientists, and first and foremost of those in BelNIIZ. However, we cannot agree with the newspaper's statement that the deterioration of the

situation that has developed with the sowing of lupine was the result of the passivity of BelNIIZ. It is precisely within recent years that for the first time in 50 years the lupine variety Narochanskiy was regionalized (1985), and that the Kastrыchnik variety has been recognized as promising (1986)--it will be regionalized this year. With the goal of activating breeding we have created a department for the breeding of legume crops, where work is in progress on the development of new intensive varieties of white, narrow-leaved and European yellow lupines that are resistant to disease.

From the point of view of the institute the area in lupine, with a consideration of the biology of the crop and the republic's ecological conditions, should comprise up to one-third of the total sowing area in legume crops, i.e. 100,000 hectares, or double the current area. The intensification of scientific-research work in breeding and technology of lupine with the goal of increasing actual crop potential is directed at increasing the interest of production in the crop, which will result in an increase in the sowing area in lupine, a very valuable feed crop. In this plan great hopes are being placed on narrow-leaved lupine.

The institute is taking the necessary measures to further analyze the reasons for the low productivity of lupine in production. It is activating work to introduce scientific achievements into the practices of kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

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SEEDING PROGRESS, PROBLEMS IN RSFSR

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by specialists of RSFSR Gosagroprom (State Agroindustrial Committee): "What Will You Sow, Farmer?"

[Text] The enterprises of 29 oblasts, krays and autonomous republics in Russia have all the good-quality seed they need. The enterprises of the remaining regions have not completed this important work; almost one-tenth of the fund of spring grains does not meet the requirements of the sowing standard.

Spring is hurrying us with preparations for sowing. The enterprises of the southern oblasts, krays and autonomous republics have already begun field work, yet not everyone has good seed at his disposal.

Almost one-fifth of the seed is not suitable for sowing in the enterprises of the Kalmyk ASSR; seed exchange is being carried out intolerably slowly. In Dagestan controls over seed quality are being poorly implemented. Here only two-fifths of the seed material has passed inspection in the state seed inspectorate. Seven percent of the seed is not ready in the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Astrakhan Oblast. Yet the days are numbered until the units move out into the fields.

There has not been the necessary concern about seed in many enterprises of the Non-Chernozem Zone as well. In Tula Oblast 271 of 411 enterprises are completely ready for sowing. In Kostroma, Kalinin, Smolensk and Yaroslavl oblasts the proportion of unconditioned seed varies between 13 and 22 percent. Basically this seed has a low germination capacity.

In the Urals region a more complicated situation involving seed quality has developed in Perm, Sverdlovsk and Kurgan oblasts, where 45 to 74 percent of seed material meets the sowing standard. At the same time the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Sverdlovsk Oblast did not take 19,000 tons of seed allocated to them from state resources, in Kurgan Oblast--30,000, and Perm Oblast--24,000 tons.

Let us note that lags in seed farming have become chronic in Perm Oblast. Seed must be brought here from outside, and this seed is of varieties that are not adapted to local conditions--all of this results in underproduction of the harvest. Today the import of almost 60,000 tons of seed of spring grain crops has been planned. In neighboring Kirov Oblast, which is not different in natural-climate conditions, enterprises today receive insignificant quantities of seed from state resources. Local agricultural organs have implemented a complex of measures related to specialization in seed farming in enterprises of the southern zone and organized there the production of sowing material for the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of northern and northeastern rayons. There is good experience next door, but Perm farmers are not rushing to make use of it. Let us say that the restructuring of seed farming on the basis of concentration is essential in Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, Tomsk and Irkutsk oblasts as well.

In a number of places the sale of seed from state resources is being hindered because grain-reception enterprises are slow to process the seed. In that same Kemerovo Oblast over two-thirds of the seed available in the enterprises of Minkhleboproduktov [Ministry of Grain Products] was not cleaned of weeds, in Novosibirsk--half, and in Chita--almost 64 percent. Large batches of seed existing in state resources in Arkhangelsk, Gorkiy and Saratov oblasts require additional cleaning.

Work to complete the exchange of poor-quality seed for conditioned seed must be completed everywhere by early April. At the same time additional examination of low-germination seed in laboratories of state seed inspectorates has shown that a large portion of the seed that is not conditioned in terms of germination has retained sufficient vitality and can be used for sowing. Thus, of the 869,000 tons of unconditioned seed examined, over half retained its vitality. If the method of air-thermal warming is utilized germination will increase by over 40 percent.

A decisive change must be achieved in the preparation of perennial grass seed. Only 65 percent of the seed has been brought up to sowing condition. As of now grass seed is ready for sowing in the oblasts, krays and autonomous republics of the North Caucasus Economic Region and Ulyanov, Volgograd, Voronezh, Belgorod and Tambov oblasts. At the same time in Yaroslavl Oblast Prechistenskaya Seed Farming Station did not perform grass seed cleaning operations for over 2 months, and one of two seed cleaning lines was inoperable during the entire winter period. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Arkhangelsk, Vologda and Tomsk oblasts are doing poor work with seed--here one-third of the seed fund has been prepared.

The sowing of such seed cannot be tolerated by a single self-respecting farmer. There is still time; locally immediate measures must be taken to correct the situation.

GRAIN VARIETY DEVELOPMENT WORK

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 17 Jan 87 p 3

[Article by M. Fedin, chairman of the State Committee for Variety Testing of Agricultural Crops of USSR Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee]: "Variety and Technology: Breeding and Seed Farming"]

[Text] In the struggle to increase productivity and gross grain yield the role of variety is very important. If we list the basic factors affecting the size of the harvest according to their significance first place will rightfully go to variety, second to fertilizers and third to measures related to crop care and the protection of crops from diseases, pests and weeds. With intensive technology the role of variety is especially great. This is natural. After all, the planned processes are directed at achieving the more complete manifestation of the plant's genetic qualities--bushiness, resistance to lodging and diseases, the number of spikelets in an ear, the time of maturation of grain and others.

Of course, an indispensable condition for the high level of effectiveness of intensive technologies is the timely and correct fulfillment of all operations while remembering that not a single one may be overlooked. It is especially important that plants receive balanced nutrition and that soil have sufficient moisture and be free of weeds. This, as we know, is achieved by the selection of a predecessor, by differentiated soil cultivation, by the corresponding system of fertilization and plant protection and by other agrotechnical measures.

As a rule, large and sometimes record harvests of grain crops are produced almost everywhere where technological discipline is observed, even under extremely difficult weather conditions. In Zarya Kommunizma Kolkhoz of Pokrovskiy Rayon, Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, the cultivation of Odesskaya Polukarlikovaya winter wheat using intensive technology yielded 76 quintals of grain per hectare. In Gorodenkovskiy Rayon of Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast yield was 55 quintals on each of 8,400 hectares, and in Leninskiy Put Kolkhoz of the same rayon--65 quintals on each of 950 hectares. In the Zavarovo Experimental-Production Enterprise of Moscow Oblast the Mironovskaya-808 variety yielded almost 60 quintals of grain per hectare.

As a rule, the use of intensive technologies is accompanied by growth in labor productivity and by a decrease in the cost of the products obtained. In the enterprises of Zolochivskiy Rayon, Lvov Oblast, on fields where wheat was cultivated in the regular manner grain yield equalled 31.6 quintals per hectare, and on fields with intensive technology--12 quintals more. Expenditures per hectare of crops equalled 249 rubles 10 kopecks in the first case and 304 rubles 50 kopecks in the second. But the prime cost of a quintal of grain produced according to regular technology turned out to be 87 kopecks higher than with intensive technology.

As tests conducted within the state variety testing system have shown, various varieties and hybrids of grain crops react differently to fertility level. For example, in the experiments of the Stavropol Variety Testing Station with the cultivation of wheat according to intensive technology (on clean fallow) the Spartanka variety yielded 84 quintals per hectare, Bezostaya-1--59.3 and Donskaya Bezostaya--65.1 quintals per hectare. With the cultivation of the same varieties utilizing regular technology yield equalled 45.8, 58.2 and 47.3 quintals of grain per hectare respectively. As we can see, the productivity of Spartanka decreased by almost half and that of Donskaya Bezostaya--by one-third.

At the Moscow State Variety Testing Station the productivity of the Zarya wheat variety equalled 68.6 quintals per hectare when an anti-lodging preparation was used, and that of Polukarlik-3--74.3 quintals per hectare. Retardants have a positive effect on varieties which have a stem of normal length. When treated with TUR, the Lyutetsens-345 variety yielded 82.8 quintals per hectare and resistance to lodging was on the level of 5 points, whereas without the retardant the figures were 72.7 quintals and 4.2 points respectively. At the same time genetically short-stemmed varieties react negatively to TUR treatment.

The biological characteristics of varieties must also be taken into account when determining the depth of sowing seed. Numerous experiments have shown that in winter wheat varieties with a regular length stalk the optimal sowing depth can vary from 3 to 5 centimeters in various zones of the country. This affects the depth of the tillering network and consequently, bushiness--when the seed is sown deeply the productive bushiness and number of spike-bearing stems per unit area decrease, as does productivity. At the same time, we should bear in mind that a network that is sown deeply encourages better wintering of crops, which is very important in regions with great fluctuations in temperatures and with severe winter frosts.

In short-stemmed, more resistant varieties the coleoptile is usually shorter. In connection with this these varieties should not be sown as deeply. Unfortunately, the sowers we use do not allow us to sow seed uniformly at the required depth. As a result the effectiveness of intensive technologies decreases.

An important link is the chemical and biological, or even better, combination integrated protection of plants from diseases and pests. It has been determined that varieties of grain crops react differently to pesticides. For example, at the Berdyanskiy Entophytological Section of Zaporozhye Oblast

Odesskaya-51 and Donetskaya-58 winter wheats were almost equal in yield (33.9 and 33.1 quintals) under conditions of equal infection with stem and leaf rusts. When these varieties were treated with tsineb [a fungicide] their productivity increased by 22 percent, whereas the productivity of Polykarlikovaya-49 increased by 35 percent and of Bezostaya-1--by 28 percent.

But whereas the harmfulness of brown (leaf) and especially of stem rust is well known to specialists, septoria spot, which has become an economically significant disease in recent years, is not given the necessary attention in many regions, including by breeders. Moreover, one of the main sources of resistance and non-susceptibility of wheat to this disease is the lines of the Mironovskaya-808 variety. Preparations such as tsineb or tilt can be used to prevent or fight septoria spot. Depending on the variety and degree of development of the disease, treatment of crops will increase the yield.

In tests at the Petropavlovskiy Entophytological Section of North Kazakhstan Oblast, for example, the use of tilt against septoria spot increased the productivity of the average-early variety Irtysanka-10 by 27.3 percent, of the average-maturation varieties Saratovskaya-29 and Zhigulevskaya--by 50 percent, and the average-late variety Tselinnaya Yubileynaya--by 65 percent.

Considering practical demands, the study of the reaction of varieties to the action of fungicides, herbicides and retardants is becoming mandatory within the state variety testing system. Since last year all varieties of grain crops have been tested on a mandatory basis on a background of intensive technology. But breeding and technological centers and other scientific-research and testing institutions must become involved in this. At the same time, machine builders must organize the mass production of dependably operating machines which are at the same time uncomplicated for the uniform and economic distribution of chemicals.

The arsenal of varieties is constantly being replenished for every crop. The following can be added to new varieties which are capable of becoming the basis for intensive grain production technologies: winter wheat--Spartanka and Istok; winter rye--Novozybkovskaya-150; winter barley--Radikal, Rossava and Siluet; spring durum wheat--Svetlana, Orenburgskaya-11 and many others. Their rapid reproduction and introduction into production is an important condition for accelerating progress in farming. It is also important that every machine operator master, with the help of specialists, the skills of correctly carrying out every technological operation.

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COOPERATIVES' SUCCESS IN KAZAN, IRKUTSK, MOSCOW EVALUATED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 Mar 87 p 2

[Article by N. Dombkovskiy, M. Zaripov, S. Karkhanin, and V. Romanchin:
"A Bouquet of Vegetables"]

[Text] In a month the Individual Labor Activity Law will take effect. Its provisions are already being observed in many locations of the country, although in an experimental manner. The initial experience gained should shed light on many questions which are still unclear.

The main question causing much concern is whether the cooperatives will be able to cope with the major task for which they were set up - to effect a substantial increase in level and quality of service.

KAZAN. Two automatic food dispensers, one producing 400 fritters an hour, the other 700 bliny, have started operating in the "Alan", the first cooperative breakfast and lunch bar in the city. Already at 9 o'clock in the morning its personnel offer customers blintzes stuffed with cottage cheese, apples, strawberry jam, butter, and meat, and oladyas with jam or butter. All the goods are kitchen-fresh, prepared right before your eyes.

In the "Alan" there is room for 50 customers, with eight members of the cooperative: a chairman, four cooks, driver-dispatch clerk, bookkeeper and a dishwasher. The cooperative members were lucky, in that they did not pay to acquire the building; it was made available to them and equipped by the neighboring "Tasma" association. However, this does not mean that the "Alan" pays nothing. The cooperative will be paying rent for the building and for use of the kitchen equipment.

This being the case, the cooperative members learned a quick and practical lesson in economics. Expenditures for advertising, electricity, tableware, salaries, withholdings - all this is painstakingly taken into account and planned for. A desire to attract more customers made it necessary to enlarge the menu. Now guests are offered not only blins or oladyas, but also cold dishes, broths, baked goods and even five types of tea - with dried apricots, prunes, raisins, pastila and plain tea. The "Alan" obtains some products at the warehouse of the public feeding association combine at

usual prices, while items in short supply - cooked beef, vegetables, fruits - are purchased in the morning at the market.

A comparison of prices charged in the public feeding facility and the "Alan" is of interest. In the case of ordinary dishes, the difference is slight. For example, apple-stuffed blintzes cost 25 and 32 kopecks, respectively; blins with butter, 9 and 12. The difference is large in the case of meat dishes, since beef is purchased at the market, where it costs about 4.5 rubles the kilogram. Even at that, none of the dishes costs more than a ruble.

Concerning quality of service, we can say that it is excellent. The "Alan" is a nice place to visit, either by yourself or in the company of your family or friends.

"If we manage things properly, we can bring in a steady profit of 500 to 600 rubles a day," explains cooperative chairman N. Shabanova. "This is quite enough to cover all expenses."

IRKUTSK. The first guests in the new "Tashkent" light food bar were children; it opened during the spring vacation. It seems the kids were attracted not by the commercial drink "Kizil", but by interest, in that the waiter, a respectable-looking man with gray hair, gave them the same respectful service he would grown-ups.

"We became attuned to clients' demands from the very start," explained the waiter, V. Tsapko, who is also the "Tashkent" cooperative chairman. "For example, at first each Uzbek national dish - lagman, mastava, shurpa, pilav, among others - cost about 2 rubles. But a survey we conducted among customers indicated that they considered the portions to be rather large and the prices high. We lowered the prices by a factor of 1.5 to 2 and reduced the size of portions somewhat and the result brought an immediate benefit - in literally a couple of days the profit jumped from 92 to 217 rubles for the shift."

In the book of comments on the "Tashkent" there are already dozens of remarks: "There should be more snack bars like this... The whole family will definitely return... Tasty, and very pleasant, to boot."

"In my opinion," continued V. Tsapko, "the main purpose of cooperatives is to offer healthy competition to the public feeding system to force it to operate better. After they have accomplished this task, cooperatives will have no further need to exist. It is true that there are those who say that we are grabbers and chasers after the "easy" ruble, but, to tell the truth, there is little that is easy in our work. For example, yesterday we finished up at 1 a.m. and we had to be on our feet again at 6 this morning to clean up the dining room. I never used to get so tired before I retired."

In the "Cheburechnaya" of the "Progress" cooperative, which also opened recently in Irkutsk, it was not necessary to lower prices. A cheburek costs

46 kopecks. In other words, the price is about 10 kopecks more than that of the ingredients. Whatever apprehension the Kirov rayispolkom had relative to the price "ceiling" not being excessive when it was renewing the charter for approval evaporated.

"The 20% markup," explained "Progress" chairman A. Vergizov, "in our opinion is optimum for the present time. We set it at a meeting, taking into account the market price of meat and the monthly usage of each cooperative member - about 200 rubles at present. We see no advantage in scaring off customers with high prices; it is easier to keep the prices low."

Now there is a steady demand for cheburekis; customers are always standing at the counter. Hourly profit is about 200 to 250 rubles. In the summer the cooperative members intend to set up tables on the sidewalk.

We must say that V. Tsapko and A. Vergizov are absolutely right: the quality of their items is outstanding and the service excellent, but most public feeding enterprises are unfortunately not in a position to compete with the cooperative members. Incidentally, there would be many more cooperatives in Irkutsk if there were enough buildings available. This is strange, since one year ago the Irkutsk gorispolkom decided to transfer to the personal needs and public feeding sector the bottom floors on Karl Marx Street, which is centrally located in the city. But a single building has yet to be made available.

There are other important questions raised by cooperative members. What sort of relationship must be set up with kolkhozes to purchase surplus meat? Where are there sources of high-grade construction materials to be used for repairs? Both the "Tashkent" and "Progress" managers stated their desire not to circumvent the law, but official approaches still do not seem to exist. The time has apparently come to help cooperatives by setting up a public organization at the gorispolkom level and invite participation by all interested parties.

MOSCOW. The cooperative light food bar located on Kropotkin Street has certainly received its share of publicity. There is hardly a publication which has not written about it. Our newspaper also described the plans formulated by its organizers.

Since some time had passed since the opening, we decided to visit the restaurant. We arrived before 7 in the morning, the time announced as the start of the day, but we were not the first. Early customers were already walking to and fro outside. But the doors were still closed, and no matter how much we banged on them, they were not opened. Bewilderment was written on people's faces: Did the cooperative not promise to provide Muscovites inexpensive meals as soon as the roosters crow?

We soon found out from local residents that there was no use coming here before midday and that we had better forget about tasty and fast snacks.

In the evening one of us decided to call first before setting out for Kropotkin Street. A polite voice made excuses and stated that the lunch bar would not have any customer vacancies until the middle of April. The reporter decided to try anyway.

At the cloak room of the small foyer, a group of documentary film makers from Kiev was waiting for cooperative chairman A. Fedorov. Let in after the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA representative were reporters from FRANCE PRESSE. A little while later there was a knock by delegates from Armenia who had come to make observations.

"It is this way every evening," muttered an irritated Fedorov. "There is no time left to work. Just now I should be at the grill and serving customers instead of being interviewed for the nth time. We did our part by opening the bar. As far as what the guests think, better ask them."

The remark made sense, since there was indeed endless work to be done. There were three dining rooms to be served - for 8, 12 and 20 persons, arriving guests to be greeted and seated.

The first question was directed to three young women seated at a table.

"This is my fourth visit and certainly not the last," answered Nina Yakovleva, a creative worker. "I feel here as I do at home. And what a kitchen! The food is wonderful."

"Do the prices bother you?"

"They are somewhat high, I must admit. But somehow you do not think about them. When you receive good service, you are willing to pay the price."

Customers sitting at other tables said the same thing.

Now about the menu and prices. The menu, although fairly limited, is changed daily. Everything the customer needs to know is written on a black-board located next to the food bar. This is what was listed that evening: fresh vegetable salad, 4 rubles 50 kopecks; fried turkey, 6 rubles; mushrooms and meat, 4 rubles 50 kopecks; veal with sauce, 7 rubles.

Supper for one on Kropotkin Street costs an average of 15 rubles. Most people eating in the dining rooms that evening were in a position to pay the price for their supper. But there was another group sitting at a table - two girls and a young man, students.

"What can you say, the food is good, but too expensive for us. Stipends just are not large enough."

It is doubtful whether they will come again.

The cooperative members are not particularly troubled by the above. They have their hands full handling the long lines. If there were more good food bars, they say, people would not be pounding on the only door around looking for excellent service. This cooperative food bar is still the only one in the capital.

* * *

We visited only three cities in the Russian Federation. What we saw in the cooperative food bars is very typical of the situation existing at other locations. We share the opinion that a great and needed activity has been started and that everyone will benefit from it. There is something in it for the cooperative members, the government, and especially customers.

In addition, the initial experience has revealed some hazards. Rapid introduction and general accessibility of the new form of public feeding in the country is linked with continual development of a system of cooperative snack restaurants, bars and cafeterias. This is completely in the hands of local governmental organizations. Approval of charters and allocation of buildings and credits should be effected quickly, without excessive supervision.

As we know, if there were something in addition to the cooperative located on 36 Kropotkin Street, the price certainly would not be as high. Provision of an atmosphere of creative competition and rivalry is well within the capability of ispolkoms.

Finally, there obviously is merit in giving serious consideration to the suggestion made by the "Progress" and "Tashkent" cooperative chairmen relative to setting up public councils at ispolkoms to further the interests of cooperatives. This form of democratic participation in municipal government will help to prevent serious errors.

13005

CSO: 1827/65

COMPETITION FOR BSSR PRIVATE TRADER IN MARKETPLACE VIEWED

Moscow SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by V. Malishevskiy, SELSKAYA GAZETA special reporter: "Marketplace Paradoxes. 1. The Private Trader and His Competitors"]

[Text] How many years have passions been seething over our kolkhoz markets!

The situation is changing slowly, however. So as not to be accused of making unsubstantiated statements, let me share with you some impressions I had during a recent visit to one of the largest markets in the republic - the Komorovskiy in Minsk.

The items that people mostly make the trip here for are the fruits and vegetables from our Belorussian gardens and kitchen gardens. I also headed for these stalls.

"Pickled cucumbers! With garlic!"

I hurried in the direction of the young ringing voice. Behind the counter there were two persons; all signs indicated that they were father and son.

"Try one."

The cucumbers were hard, crunchy, and pickled just right, with a hint of garlic. I could not resist and asked them to weigh three or four for me, in spite of the price of 4 rubles per kilogram - 10 times the store price.

I struck up a conversation with the sellers. They were from Samokhvalovich, a suburb of Minsk.

"The pickling secret? There is none. The only thing is... we add garlic."

I drew a mental picture of store cucumbers, which, by the way, are presently not available. They are nondescript in color and bruised; they do not seem to be fresh from the barrel. And salty - much more than enough. The price, though, I must admit, is on the kopeck level.

Something else came to mind. The cucumbers offered for sale in the store are also from Samkhvalovichi! Maybe the pickling operation, which is an activity of such pickling diligence, is located on the same street as our new acquaintances - the father and son team? Neighbors, but such a difference in quality!

What is the matter? The answer is simple, I think. They pickle some cucumbers for their own use, take what is left to market, but other pickles they process to meet a production figure.

"Sauerkraut! Have a look, buy!" I heard another melodious voice exclaim nearby.

Snow-white, juicy, seasoned with fragrant herbs, garnished with cranberries, it was so appetizing that I paid one and a half rubles for a kilogram, even though I knew that I had some at home I prepared myself.

"Remarkable kraut!", added a female shopper approvingly. "In the fall my husband and I canned about 20 liters. We did everything by the book, but the taste is nothing like yours. I do not know what is wrong."

"Come visit us in Smilovichi and we will teach you how to do it," said the female seller, smiling. "Every one of our peasant women is a doctor of science in this area. And not only in cabbage work."

Standing behind the counter next to the smart woman from Smilovichi was an old man with a pail of soaked antonovka apples. Each apple looked perfect, and the price was right - 1.5 rubles - but there were no buyers. It seemed to me that we have forgotten this delicacy. One must realize that soaked antonovka apples prepared according to the recipe our grandmothers used are the next best thing to fresh apples with the possible exception of taste. Even that appeals to some connoisseurs. On the other hand, they contain less saccharose, excess amounts of which are undesirable, especially for the elderly, while the fructose content is the same. They offer much pectin, which helps the body remove harmful substances. They are invaluable for people predisposed to obesity and for sufferers of high blood pressure. And what a variety of remarkable salads and pies they make!

It would appear that a good advertising campaign for this delicacy would help us preserve a large part of the apple harvest, all the more since the apple soaking technology is not particularly expensive.

Next I found myself in front of fresh cabbage stalls. I do not know if the market administration assigned a single row to the sellers or if they for some reason decided to offer their product in one location, but the display was unique. The heads were blindingly white, hard and free of bruises. I could not believe that they had been stored in cellars all winter long. The price was the same for the entire stall - from 80 kopecks (depending upon head size) to one ruble per kilogram.

Also quite presentable were the salespeople - genial young people speaking with a Baltic accent. I chatted with one of them.

"Why have I come to market in Minsk? Back home there are many competitors - kolkhozes, sovkhoses; and the cabbage sold in state stores is quite good."

The cabbage trade is profitable and useful, no doubt about that. Incidentally, later in the BSSR Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee] I was cited a statistic: one sotka of cabbage nets a profit of more than 500 rubles. It is a shame, though, that specialists interested in the market economy look on this profit as existing only in the private garden area.

There was also much activity at the potato stalls, even though the sellers had a poor location - a corner in a covered pavilion - directly on the floor. All sellers were charging the same price of 50 kopecks the kilo. I cannot say how tasty the potatoes were, but they looked very good.

I felt sorry for our public sector, suppliers, and finally the trade. It would appear that there is no reason why good potatoes cannot be offered in stores. Last year villagers produced a record harvest of 210 centners per hectare. But what do we have in the store?

The marketplace is a reliable source of helping out the budget with "extra kopecks" that should be considered as soon as possible by kolkhozes and sovkhoses. Why is it not possible to accumulate a supply of good potatoes or cabbage to sell in the marketplace in the spring? As far as that goes, there are about a dozen kinds of fruits and vegetables suitable for sale at the market that could be grown in the kolkhoze field, kitchen garden or small garden.

Not everything can be done at once, of course. It is necessary to have people who are commercially talented; and bases and warehouses are required. All this is true. But much can be done without becoming involved with large expenditures. Take warehouses, for example. Of course, if we were to take the traditional route of launching a project to erect a concrete building, the matter would be hopeless. But what if we were to have a look at the kinds of cellars used by people who produce the cabbage and potatoes that attract such admiration at the spring market and build something similar for ourselves? In a word, we must think, look for reserves, show initiative.

There is another market "Superman" that brings in large profits. Garlic. Six rubles per kilogram for the soaked kind and 30 to 40 kopecks the head for ordinary garlic - these were the prices on that day. Very expensive. But this crop grows well in our republic. Also, the small Belorussian garlic holds up well in storage. The large organizations do not favor it, either. The private sellers who come to town are demanding enormous prices for it. All that would be required is for suburban organizations to set aside a small piece of land to grow garlic, lease the plot to families or possibly city dwellers, and the marketplace would be full of the produce. But then again what is needed is initiative, a proprietor's flair and the interest.

After visiting the rich commercial stalls of the private traders - the ones where the prices "made you wince" - I headed for other counters, ones that were substantial, more strictly organized, covered with glass. They were owned by cooperative management, the most serious "competitor" of the private trader, so to speak. What was being offered for sale here? Much. There were fresh cucumbers, cabbage, several varieties and types of apples, spring onions, regular onions, beets, potatoes, carrots, etc. Polish apples and lemons were selling briskly. There were few customers in front of the glass-covered vegetables, however. Maybe the prices were too high? No. For one kilogram of potatoes, 12 kopecks; fresh cabbage, 70; sauerkraut, 18; pickled tomatoes, 20 (2 rubles at the private trader's); soaked apples, 70. Everything was cheaper, and by several times, at that. But there were few buyers. The main reason by far - the quality. The produce offered here was inferior in all respects.

The second reason was the unattractive goods lying there under the glass. One had the impression that the merchandise had not been changed in weeks. The tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, and cabbage did not look any better. It would seem that some vegetables, such as the sauerkraut and pickled tomatoes, could be displayed to greater advantage in the private trade stalls instead of the pavilion. There would be more customers and at least some competition.

A second competitor for the private trader is the kolkhoz trade. However, this unfortunately consisted only of the Minsk Vegetable Factory.

"We rarely have anyone from the kolkhozes and sovkhoses visit us," said Kolkhoz Market Association chief S. Gedroyts. "For this year, for example, we have an agreement with only three organizations: the Minsk Vegetable Factory, Kolkhoz imeni Ordzhonikidze in Smolevichskiy Rayon and the Sovkhoz imeni Yanka Kupala in Molodechnenskiy Rayon. They cannot offer much competition to the private trader, let alone affect prices. We have sent many representatives to various areas of the republic, but, to be honest, even the agreements they make there will be no guarantee that the conditions will be carried out. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses do not have a burning desire to sell their produce in the marketplace."

I intended to find out from Stanislav Feliksovich about efforts made by association specialists to interest private traders in the market. As we know, the more private traders there are, the lower the prices.

"If a villager has a surplus of produce, he goes to market himself. If not, what can be done about it? But this does not mean that we are passive about it. For residents of Pinsk Rayon who grow early cucumbers, for example, we provide transportation, which they readily accept to take their produce to Minsk. When early strawberries ripen in southern areas of the republic, we also help with delivery to market. In a word, we do quite a bit, but not so much as to have any serious influence on market varieties or especially prices."

It seems to me that it is about time that special agents be added to market personnel staffs; they would visit rural areas, make arrangements with people relative to growing certain crops, take on full responsibility for delivering the produce to market, and, if necessary, even for selling it. With the knowledge that customers will definitely make the trip to buy the produce, rooms could be reserved in the hotel. Many villagers, especially pensioners, would gladly participate in something they know well.

There are other possibilities for improvement. But they are still under the hat, so to speak.

Let us make some conclusions. To be honest, they are not very comforting. It is not yet time for the Belkoopsoyuz [Cooperative Union of the Belorussian SSR], let alone our kolkhozes and sovkhoses, to exert pressure on private traders in the marketplace. They do not have the wherewithal, sufficient initiative, or the interest. What prevents them from improving the quality of their products? Why cannot the suppliers set up a proper pickling process for cucumbers, cabbage and tomatoes? Where are our food specialists? What are they doing for this plan? Finally, what prevents the kolkhozes and sovkhoses from taking their products to market? There are many questions. I set out to visit the respective organizations and departments to get answers. But that is something I will discuss later.

13005

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GROWTH IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY PRODUCTION SUMMARIZED

Moscow TEKSTILNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST in Russian No 2, Feb 87 pp 3-5

[Article by V. N. Poroshenko, deputy chief, Technical Administration, USSR Ministry of Light Industry: "Reorganizing the Textile Industry"]

[Text] The Eleventh Five-Year-Plan period saw light industry in the USSR make great strides forward in efforts to increase production of consumer goods. Particular attention was given to expanding production and the assortment of fabrics. Each year saw the replacement of more than 25 per cent of them.

The range of cotton fabrics offered was expanded and new fabrics were introduced, to include, in particular, more fabrics made of high-modulus viscose and polyester staple fibers and fabrics with new structures and designs.

To the assortment of wool fabrics were added items with new looks and structures and enhanced consumer appeal made of shaped and crepe-twisted thread, thread containing methanite and thread made of goat and camel hair.

The range of silk fabrics was expanded by cutting material inputs and by using single fibers and threads and a variety of modified, textured, shaped and combination threads.

The assortment of linen fabrics was enlarged, first and foremost by adding to the dress linen category, which includes fabrics containing polyester fiber.

These efforts entailed a corresponding expansion of the raw material base of the industry. The textile raw materials balance saw an increase in the chemical fiber and filament component of from 26 per cent in 1980 to 32 per cent in 1985.

This period also witnessed major improvements in production standards, which came as a result of the reequipping and reorganization of existing enterprises, the installation of efficient new equipment and the introduction of a variety of systems automating and mechanizing production processes, which have increased production efficiency and improved product quality.

Industry enterprises have replaced a major portion of their productive assets and added to their inventories of advanced new facilities and equipment. Every other ton of our cotton yarn and thread is now being produced on sophisticated pneumomechanical equipment, while 76 per cent of our cotton fabrics and 70 per cent of our silk cloth is made on the highly efficient shuttleless textile looms.

Enterprises throughout the industry have begun to make more extensive use of low-waste production processes, automated production systems and robots and manipulators, which has made it possible to achieve economies in the use of manpower and raw and other material resources.

Plans for the Twelfth Five-Year-Plan period and the period extending to the year 2000 call for light industry to grow from the exploitation of advances in science and technology and by using available productive potential more efficiently, taking account of targets established for increases in production, expansion of product assortment and improvement of the quality of consumer goods production contained in the integrated program for expanding consumer goods production and the consumer services sector for the period 1986-2000.

Long-term plans call for solution of the most critical problems the 27th Party Congress placed on the agenda of the light industrial sector:

- maximum satisfaction of demand for consumer goods;
- maximum rates of production in the light industrial sector to be achieved by intensifying production, insuring efficient use of raw and other materials and reorganizing, reequipping and expanding existing enterprises;
- improvement in the quality of products in the light industrial sector by making extensive use of the latest technologies and low-waste and waste-free production processes.

Called upon to play an important role in the solution of these problems have been the branches of the textile industry responsible for the production of cotton, wool, silk and linen fabrics. Plans call for production in these branches between 1986 and the year 2000 to increase 1.4 fold, this breaking out to a 1.3-fold increase in the production of cotton fabrics, a 1.6-fold rise in output of silk and linen fabrics and a 1.4-fold increase in the production of wool fabrics.

Plans also call for expansion of the range of product assortment over the period extending to the year 2000 by making greater use of chemical filaments and fibers, primarily those of low linear density, increasing production of fabrics made of combination threads and yarns and by developing new types of fabrics using modified filaments and fibers with improved properties.

The cotton industry will be increasing production of fabrics containing chemical fibers in efficient combinations with cotton, which will insure preservation of the hygienic properties of these materials and at the same time make them both wear- and crease-resistant. Plans call for rapid increases in production of cotton fabrics in the print, dress, apparel, toweling and nap categories. Improvements in finishing processes and production facilities are expected to yield substantial increases in the production of fabrics with special finishes, crease-resistant fabrics, for example, low-shrinkage fabrics, gloss-finished fabrics, textured print fabrics etc. The greatest increases will come in the production of mercerized cotton cloth with more attractive color schemes, which will be possible with the use of improved dyes.

Changes in the assortment of wool fabrics have been planned such as to take account of the changing market demand for these materials and for items made from them.

Plans call for the development and production of fabrics for coats, suits and dress suits which contain less material and show better structure with the use of new types of thread made of natural and chemical fibers and combinations of these two types of fiber, shaped thread, thread with greater twist and combination and texturized threads. This will make it possible to improve the appearance of wool fabrics and at the same time make them more permeable to air. To make wool fabrics more attractive to the consumer we will be finishing more and more of them with a variety of processes to make them water repellant and resistant to creasing, shrinkage and moths.

The silk industry is going go into production with high-quality, less material-intensive fabrics resembling the purely natural cloth making more efficient use of available raw material and technology, taking account of basic trends in clothing fashions. We have developed and now gone to production with dress fabric made of artificial and synthetic fiber with different types of twist (texturized, combination and modified twists); light staple fabrics made of shaped and multicolored thread; shirt fabrics made of combination thread of low linear density; fabric for rainwear made of polyamide fiber containing more elementary fiber; decorative fabrics made of a variety of chemical fibers and necktie fabrics made of polyester fibers of low linear density. We will be making more extensive use of a number of different finishing processes (glossing, embossing, crepe processing), more efficient new methods of printing on photo film print machines, the sublistatics [sublistatika] method and pigment dyes.

Plans for the linen processing industry to increase production first and foremost of fabrics in the dress linen category which to the fullest possible extent exhibit the hygienic and heat- and moisture-controlling properties characteristic of linen. We will be seeing increased production of fabrics for bed linen, curtains, decorative fabrics, blankets and spreads, towels and towel fabrics and napkins and fabrics for other dining area needs. To expand the assortment of linen fabrics available we will be going more and more to the photo film print processing method.

Implementation of the full range of measures planned for the period extending to the year 2000 aimed at expanding assortment and improving fabric quality is going to require substantially greater scales and higher levels of chemization of the raw material base of the textile industry, improvement of the classification structure and major improvement in the quality and expansion of the range of chemical fibers and filaments supplied to light industry.

Achievment of the fabric-production levels planned for the period 1986-2000 is going to require greater acceleration of the pace of advances in science and technology within the textile industry.

Plans call for attention to be focused first and foremost on the development and introduction of fundamentally new automated low-waste fabric production processes and, on the basis of the new processes, fully mechanized and automated plants and facilities.

One of the primary focuses within the spinning sector in all branches of the industry will be the introduction of more efficient new technologies making it possible to shorten the process involved in making twisted, shaped and combination threads for use in the production of the larger assortment of fabrics planned for the future; the introduction of a new technology for shortening the process of manufacturing of mixed

threads using twisted chemical fibers and stapling machines. Plans call for the ring spinning machines used to make the finer threads to be equipped with automatic twisting, removing and cleaning devices.

Multished looms will be used to make a large assortment of woven linen fabrics. These machines will constitute the basis for providing automated enterprises with electronic systems for monitoring and controlling the shuttleless weaving process.

The wool sector is going to be developing and introducing automated bale-to-carding belt flow lines which eliminate a number of belt transitions and automated the processes involved in twisting the belt together and removing the packs.

We will be making a major portion of our wool thread and yarn on high-speed spindleless pneumomechanical, automatic twisting and chamberless spinning machines equipped with automated systems for positioning the semifinished product, automatic twisting systems and automatic removal mechanisms.

Plans call for extensive introduction into production operations of a process whereby twisted chemical fiber is made into bands of staple material on band-tearing and band-stapling machines.

Plans for the linen industry call for the development and introduction of automated systems for processing flax fiber using band-stapling and band-mixing machines and spindleless pneumomechanical and reeling machinery.

Plans also call for the introduction of high-speed spinning and twisting machines for making thread from twistable continuous synthetic filament, which will be provided with systems for automating operations involved in changing and removing bales and in dealing with breaks.

The textile industry plans to develop fully mechanized and automated facilities incorporating shuttleless looms and automated preproduction processing machinery, which will raise labor productivity some 2-3 fold.

To provide capacities for producing a variety of types of linen fabrics and shag, denim and velvet cloth, we will be introducing pneumatic prong looms equipped with harness-lifting carriages or jacquard machines. We will also be bringing into operation increasing numbers of the shuttleless microspindle looms with weft takeup, harness-lifting carriages, "search-one" mechanisms (mekhanizm rozyska raza), electronic weft controllers etc.

Plans call for the production of multicolored fabrics on improved prong-type (prapir) looms.

For the first time in the history of our own industry we are going to be developing and introducing automated microprocessor systems for controlling textile production operations and an automated system for grading coarse fabrics.

Looking now at our finishing operations, we will be continuing work on the development of systems which will allow us to intensify finishing operations and of automated equipment which will provide high-quality fabric finishes. We will also be

developing and introducing economical new methods of finishing fiber materials incorporating working solution and water cycles which have been closed to the maximum possible extent, which will make it possible to cut consumption of chemicals, water and electric power and help protect the natural environment.

Dye-finishing operations will see the introduction of efficient new automated equipment for bleaching, dyeing and finishing textiles which will use new physical-chemical methods and new processing techniques (vacuum, organic solvents, liquid ammonia, high temperature and pressure and radiochemical modification of fibers).

We will also be adding automated lines which will both bleach and finish fabrics as tented cloth, machines for mercerizing fabrics and thread in liquid ammonia and a line for final finishing fabrics in organic solvents.

Plans call for the introduction of more machines which automatically wrap finished fabrics in the film wrapping, which will make it possible to increase the productivity of the labor involved in this operation some 2-2.5 fold.

We will be bringing production lines into operation to perform special fabric impregnation operations (to impregnate fire-resistant linen fabrics, for example) and to add finishes involving the use of polymer compounds, which will enable us to produce fabrics with special properties for use in household, official and other public service activities.

Advances in science and technology will be seen to have made their greatest contribution to the various branches of the textile industry in increases in labor productivity, lower manpower requirements and reduced material inputs into production.

We will also be seeing substantial improvements in working conditions, lower noise levels and less dust in the air within production facilities and the elimination of requirements for humans to perform heavy and unpleasant manual labor. Our production operations are going to be more highly mechanized.

The concept of accelerating the pace of social and economic development in the USSR by doing everything possible to intensify production and exploiting to the maximum advances in science and technology involves the utilization not only of the enormous economic potential of our own country, but of the limitless possibilities offered by socialist economic integration as well.

An example of multilateral cooperation in science and technology between the USSR and other Comecon member countries over the years of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan period can be seen in the introduction of an automated system for monitoring and controlling the spinning process, which is making it possible to reduce tearing in the spinning machines, increase the productivity of both manpower and machines and develop an automated system for controlling fabric-finishing processes, which will in turn cut consumption of raw and other materials and improve product quality.

In accordance with our integrated target program of cooperation in the area of waste recovery, we have developed processes and a range of thin suit, dress and coat fabrics using thread containing recovered wool material.

Joint efforts undertaken by the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria have led to the introduction of the Jacquard-1 system, which is designed to automate the preparation of the cards (programs) for the fine-scale jacquard machines. The Jacquard-1 system is enabling us to achieve more than 20-per cent increases in the productivity of the labor involved in the preparation of these cards and at the same time to add more variety to the assortment of jacquard fabrics we produce and finish them with entirely new designs, the programming for which would have been impossible by the traditional manual methods.

Cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania has led to the development of a technology for sizing polyester-cotton thread and yarn using synthetic sizing agents and a process for sizing thread for rainwear fabrics, which then involved a drying stage.

A program of cooperation with the Czechoslovak SSR has led to the introduction of a technology for processing different types of acetate fibers and then for making fabrics from both these fibers and combinations of these with synthetic fibers on hydraulic looms.

In conformity with tasks outlined at the 27th Congress of the CPSU, multilateral cooperation with Comecon member countries over the period 1986-1990 within the sphere of light industry will focus on implementation of the decisions of the economic conference and of the integrated program of scientific and technological development of the Comecon member countries over the period extending to the year 2000.

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IMPROVEMENTS IN ESSR CONSUMER SERVICES CITED

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 11, Mar 87 pp 18-19

[Article by EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA correspondent Svetlana Bik (Tallinn, Pyarnu, Vilyandi): "Service by Contract: "The Social Factor in Acceleration-- Economic Relations between Contract Collective and Association (Enterprise)"; first three paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] The party has set the task of taking resolute measures to eliminate the sharp disproportion between demand for services on the one hand and the supply of these services on the other. First and foremost for services which lighten the burden of domestic household chores and services associated with apartment decoration and repair, the tourist industry and motor vehicle service, the demand for which is growing particularly rapidly.

New forms of manpower organization in the service sector and initiative on the part of work collectives in developing systems of public service on a cooperative basis and in the introduction of the contract for a variety of categories of consumer services, the quality of which must continue to improve, are contributing a great deal to the solution of this problem.

At the beginning of 1985 the Estonian SSR Ministry of Consumer Services launched an economic experiment designed to increase the administrative and economic independence and the direct interest of enterprises and work collectives in satisfying the public demand for services more fully. What, specifically, does this mean in practice?

First and foremost it means an unqualified improvement in the quality of the service itself, whether it be laundering linens, repairing refrigerators and cars or fixing household appliances. Plus the creation of the elements of what is referred to as a service environment, features which make for the greatest possible convenience for the customer and client, an atmosphere of concern for and attention to the needs of people. Evidence of this can be seen in the work schedules in stores and shops, in the time it takes for work to get done, in the nature of the contact established with the customer and in the related services provided. You'll have to agree, it would indeed be nice to have the shoes or washing machine you've just had repaired delivered to your home, or to have a glass of juice while you're waiting your turn at the hairdresser's. This really wouldn't be all that complicated a situation to manage, after all. But we haven't seen any suggestions in this direction just yet. What we are still seeing in most instances is something else entirely: long lines

at the hairdresser's, and while a seat might be available some other time, there's none to be found in the crowded, uncomfortable "waiting room."

The traditional forms of manpower organization in the consumer services sector, which has been subjected to some searching criticism, has for the most part not offered the remotest hope for the possibility of seeing some meaningful improvement in the quality of these services, improvement which would bring them up to the level of present-day demand. And this has, to a certain extent, reduced the volume of services in monetary terms.

What has been needed is a complete break with the old, stock approaches to things in the service sector. Estonians have tackled this problem with a clear idea of the difficulties they will encounter along the way and at the same time with the knowledge that success in this experiment will bring services to the consumer and improve the quality of these services, which will in turn increase consumer demand for them. What they are going to here is a system of organizing the supply of consumer services on the basis of contracts between an enterprise and, say, a group of workers in a lower-level organization or with individual workers.

The Elektron association, which repairs and provides warranty service for radio and television equipment, was among the first consumer service organizations in the republic to go over to the contract form of manpower organization and of providing incentives for personnel involved in supplying consumer services.

It all began in the spring of 1985 with a shop on Tallinn's Tammpsaare Street. Back then you saw the managers of various branches and associations and representatives of social organizations keeping an eagle eye on literally every step the "pioneer" took, for it was indeed something new entirely for a brigade to be such broad authority and such extensive financial independence.

People in the ministry still recall how on one occasion early on in the experiment they got a call complaining about the repairmen down on Tammpsaare Street: the caller had just gotten his television back from the shop and it wasn't working. He was raising some legitimate questions: what's going on here, is the experiment failing? Is this just more of the same old hackwork? The problem was that it was getting on toward evening, and the shop was already closed. In any event, they called the general director of Elektron, Vello Evaldovich Rink, at home. The next morning the ministry office got another call:

"Thanks for the quick response. An hour after I called you the repairman arrived and took care of everything. Everything's working fine now. Thanks again!"

People say that this particular incident finally made believers in the benefits the new approach out of the people at the ministry. The same year saw three more association brigades in Pyarnu go over to the contract system, and the following year it was the entire Pyarnu branch concluding a contract with Elektron.

And what was the critical consideration for the management of the association in going over to contract forms of manpower organization?

"An ability to guarantee stability in the plan targets we confirm to our lower-level organizations," explains Yevdokiya Vasilyevna Bershakova, chief economist at Elektron.

"The workers need to be assured of long-term stability in the standards and rates which form the basis of our plans and financial computations. They will then work with maximum application of resources, without concealing reserves, which in turn will give us sharp increases in labor productivity."

What was important for the association was to be able to achieve some stability in its five-year plans and establish its right to break down its service sales volumes over a period of years without the inevitable annual increases "over previous levels." To do this back then, at the beginning of 1985, was not all that simple a thing, however. The problem of adjusting economic thinking and of making a break with the old, stock approaches to management and production organization did not present itself as a practical matter to everyone involved in all its aspects and as a matter of inevitable necessity.

At the same time, the very idea of such stirring "freedom" to manipulate the plan was still encountering some very stiff resistance. Fortunately, though, the collective had lined up on its side some highly capable allies who weren't frightened by the idea of innovation. Gathering all its strength, Elektron was able to win from the ministry the right to alter procedures employed in planning operations over the course of the five-year-plan period. There would be no more planning on the basis of "increases over previous levels." None of this produced anything really terrifying. By 1990 the association plans to have increased the volume of services supplied by a factor of 1.5 over the figure for the previous five-year-plan period and laid a foundation for even higher rates of growth in the services sector.

Elektron has now been able to insure stability in plan targets for the lower-level organizations it contracts with.

In accordance with existing regulations, individuals working full or part days (or weeks) and employees (workers, junior maintenance personnel, employees and engineering and technical personnel) working more than one job (to include those working more than one job at the particular enterprise involved) can be transferred to a contract system of employment and work incentives for time outside the regular work schedule for their primary occupation.

Work groups operating on the basis of a contract with an association undertake the following obligations:

- to perform the planned volume of services with their own personal labor or with that of their families;
- to perform these services at currently established prices or at prices computed for them;
- to insure that the quality of services performed and warranty periods for the operation of items manufactured or repaired correspond to standards and specifications and other technical standards documentation currently in force at the enterprise;
- to perform consumer services on schedule and observe proper customer service procedures;
- to strive to maintain high service quality and
- to deposit sums in the amounts required and within periods specified by contract with either the cashier of the enterprise or into enterprise accounts with institutions of USSR Gosbank.

The industrial association for its part undertakes the following:

- to provide the contracting organizations with copies of regulations governing the provision of consumer services or with excerpts from them, lists of current prices and fees, all necessary forms, warranty forms, comment and suggestion books and advertising;
- to provide contractors with materials and spare parts or to make them available to them for ready cash;
- to make available operations facilities, equipment, tools and instruments and
- to provide enterprises with production-related services (motor transport, repairs on facilities, equipment etc.).

The contract system has necessitated the development of new cost-accounting principles which would provide more effective incentives to increase the volume and improve the quality of services and make payment for services rendered directly dependent on the results of a collective's performance in rendering these services.

The cost accounting involved here provides for two types of payment: fixed and periodic, both of which are determined on the basis of specific standards.

Taking the example of a situation in which each employee of a hairdressing establishment on Lauristini Street in Tallinn performs 580 rubles' worth of services per month, let us now look at how these fixed and periodic payments are computed (see table).

As we can see from this example, the most critical item in the contract is going to concern the set amount of income the collective is going to be obligated to turn over to the enterprise. This amount will remain constant regardless of the volume of services actually performed.

This fixed proportion of income is computed so as to cover the operating costs of the association (enterprise): the cost of materials as a component of the list cost of the service, facility and general production costs, pay for scheduled leave and employee time off for training and pay for time employees spend discharging state and social obligations, deductions for government social insurance and payments into the state budget of fixed taxes and and other payments from wages and to insure profits commensurate with the normalized profitability of the production association (enterprise) but not lower than the actual profitability for a particular type of consumer service within the association (or enterprise). The fixed income computed for individuals holding two positions does not include pay for scheduled leave and time off for training, pay for time engaged in discharging state and social obligations or deductions for state social insurance.

From the remaining portion of its income, the collective must make periodic payments covering, for example, the lease on the facility, amortization of equipment and inventory and the maintenance thereof, janitorial services and primary and secondary materials. Only at this point are the remaining earnings distributed as wages among employees in accordance with their individual work contribution.

The cost accounting involved here, a procedure which lies at the basis of the contract system of manpower organization, requires that each individual worker know down to the last detail the specific economics involved in his operation and increase his fund of economic knowledge.

FIXED PAYMENTS
(which must be paid to enterprise in accordance
with schedules specified in contract)

	rubles	per cent of sales	remarks
1. Deductions for social insurance	9.0	1.5	4.7 per cent of current earnings
2. Unused leave	14.02	2.4	7.0 per cent of current earnings
3. Income tax and trade union dues	21.94	3.8	Income tax is computed on basis of current earnings in accordance with a table. Union dues are 1.0 percent of current earnings.
4. Shop costs	56.84	9.8	
5. General plant costs	49.30	8.5	
6. Advertising costs	2.90	0.5	
7. Profit	118.06	20.4	No lower than normalized
Totals	272.06	46.9	

"The economist has always been met in the brigade with a certain degree of unease," remarks Ye. Bershakova in sharing her observations on the relationships here. "Once he gets inside the shop there's always the chance he'll start 'pruning back' the rates. Relations between the economist and the contractors have now warmed considerably, however. People have started coming forward more frequently for suggestions and for help with one particular problem or another. And the way things have been set up now, the brigade itself is supposed to be involved in the planning process, in the computation of profits and earnings and concern itself with efforts to find new answers, new solutions. But this requires a certain degree of economic literacy, so it is just essential that the people functioning within this system develop some mastery of the economics involved. The economic service has been charged with heavy responsibilities, but the work at the same time has gotten more interesting. We feel like we're at the real center of the reorganization effort."

"People are responding to these changes in different ways," points out V. Rink, general director of Elektron. "It seems like some still think somebody else is going to be getting everything ready for them, and then they'll just start doing things a new way. Right at the very beginning we sent out instructions on procedures and general informational material to all three branches of our association, material dealing with the introduction of contractual forms of work organization. But it was only from the Pyarnu branch that we received any prompt response and a countersuggestion. They didn't waste any time getting all the preliminary work out of the way out there. This is very important; it's essential, because people have to take the possibilities into

PERIODIC PAYMENTS

(paid to enterprise if enterprise has contracted to cover the following expenditures)

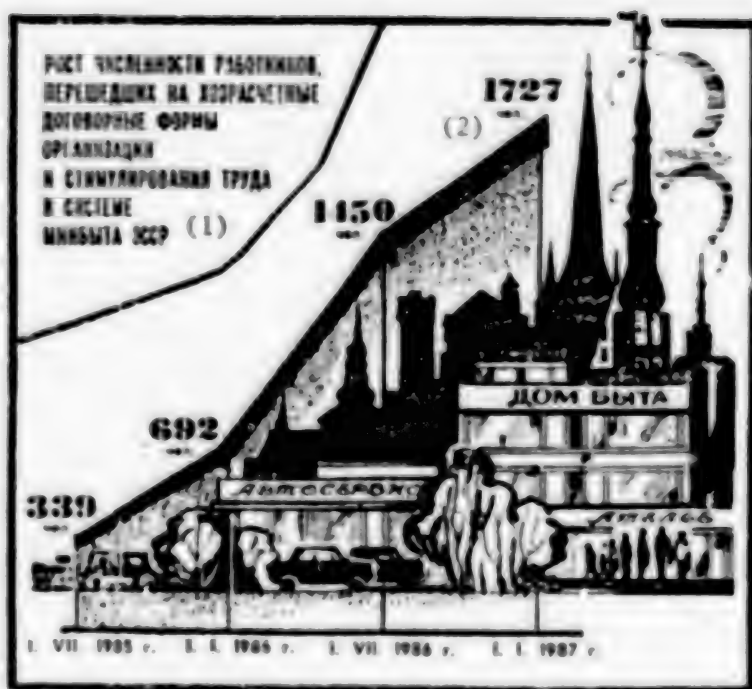
	rubles	per cent of sales	remarks
1. Primary material	87.0	15.0	
2. Secondary material	13.92	2.4	
3. Equipment depreciation	1.65	0.3	payment mandatory
4. Inventory depreciation	2.50	0.4	payment mandatory
5. Maintenance on equipment and tools	4.55	0.8	
6. Facility maintenance	3.50	0.6	
7. Janitorial services	7.50	1.3	
8. Lease expense	13.98	2.4	payment mandatory
Totals	134.60	23.2	
Total fixed and periodic payments	406.66	70.1	
Electricity costs	(3.90)	0.7	payment mandatory (based on meter reading)
Computed earnings (minus income tax and union dues)	169.45	29.2	

consideration. For the fact is that the targets we set our contractors are really fairly demanding as far as the standards go. The Pyarnu branch, for example, is required to increase the volume of services performed over the course of the five-year-plan period by almost 60 per cent."

"I will not deny that a powerful argument in favor of the new systems of manpower organization was the figures on official earnings of the first three brigades which went over to the contract system," A. Torop, director of the Pyarnu branch, adds, now joining the conversation. "They doubled on the average. This kind of news travels fast."

Let's point out here that if he does no more than meet the plan target, a worker is going to earn somewhere in the neighborhood of 250 rubles. So it's not hard to figure out from this how much service work this worker is going to have to do above and beyond this demanding plan to receive an amount twice that for his labors.

All this required some initial study and training, of course. Incidentally, the period during which preparations were under way to change the branch as a whole over to this "independent" system of operation saw a staff, or an economic council, to be more accurate, take shape, which meets from time to time to resolve different problems arising in the course of the work of the organization. Who's on this council? In addition to the traditional "triangle" — an economist, the chairman of the brigade leaders' council and a foreman.



KEY: 1 - increase in numbers of employees going to cost-accounting contract systems of manpower organization and incentives within ESSR ministry of consumer services; 2 - employees. Buildings labeled (left to right) motor vehicle service, consumer service center and repair shop

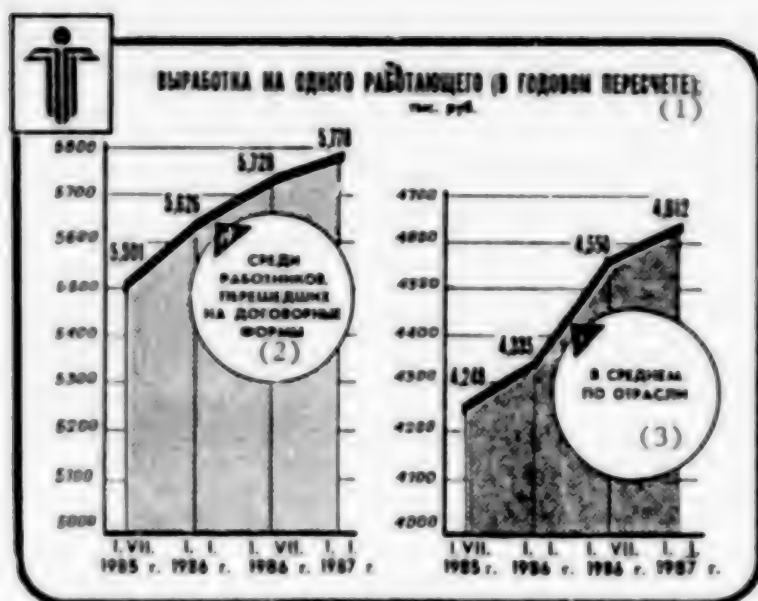
other. And you'll have to agree, this can't help but have a positive impact on the quality of the service performed here. Beyond that, the relations between customer and contractor have on the whole become more open and above-board, what with the fact that all above-plan income remains in the hands of the collective, so there's no need to resort to any deceitful practices.

According to the figures for last year, the Pyarnu branch increased its volume of services to 13.5 per cent above the level called for in the plan, 20.6 per cent above the figure for 1985. On the other hand, the Tartu branch, which is still operating under the "old system," increased its volume of services for the year by only 16 per cent. The Pyarnu branch handled almost 25 per cent more rush orders. This is an important indicator of quality, because a shop is granted the right to handle the "rush" orders when it demonstrates it can handle the "routine" work on schedule.

All annual branch performance figures are better than those for Elektron overall, the association appearing in a distinctly favorable light when compared with other associations in the industry. Performing an enormous volume of above-plan services, 533,700 rubles over and above the plan target, Elektron has been able to expand its business in rural areas at a very rapid rate. This is another fairly convincing quality indicator, in view of the fact that services performed in outlying areas have almost invariably been unprofitable.

As are other managers at Elektron, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Torop is not inclined to idealize the results he has seen from operations under the new contract system. As a system of incentives, it is far from having had a chance to demonstrate its full effectiveness. There is no attempt here to speak of having eliminated all the "chronic deficiencies" in the television and radio repair business. But the people here do say one thing with certainty: the repairman has a definite interest in performing a high volume of work and in doing this work well, what with the fact that according to the terms of the contract, he is required to remedy any deficiencies at his own expense.

There is a marked improvement in discipline within the brigade now, with members of the brigade demonstrating greater demandingness toward one another.



KEY: 1 - production per worker (annualized), thous. rubles; 2 - among workers who have gone to contract systems; 3 - average for the industry

work, some doing the hackwork, and for good pay, operating in the shadow of the official accounting of the consumer services people and covering some of the gaps in their service system.

"When people realized it was possible to conclude mutually beneficial contracts to do one kind of work or another," points out Yye Arnoldovich Steyn, chief of the consumer services administration of the ESSR's Vilyandi Rayon, "the proposals, we would say, just began to pour in. One individual knew how to line fireplaces, another can do any kind of mechanical work at home, a third makes small agricultural machinery to use on the private plots. We are studying all this very carefully and initially are concluding short-term contracts with these people. We are helping them as we can: we are finding them work areas, providing them with material and equipment and, frequently, setting them up with orders. And we are making vigorous use of the rayon press for advertising."

For the most part, however, it is small organizations which are going over to the contract system. And this would not be surprising: accounts can be settled with an enterprise in accordance with a precise schedule without any adjustments in the amounts of the payments. The collective can always fulfill the obligations it undertakes. If anybody gets sick, for example, his colleagues can always take over for him. If for some unavoidable reason there's an extended period of idle time, it will always be possible to bring in some people working two jobs.

Failure to deposit required payments with the enterprise or into enterprise accounts with USSR Gaspbank will subject the collective of the lower-level organization or the individual worker to penalties imposed in accordance with a clearly established

It is precisely the contractors, of which Elektron now has more than 300 (45 per cent of its total workforce), which have played such an important role in these positive structural shifts in the geography of the service business here.

As a rule, the increasing demand for services has always been met one way or another. As a matter of fact you could be sure to find a specialist to handle almost any kind of problem. Frequently, it is true, he would be the kind of person who ordinarily had anything to do with consumer service. And for a long time there were "businessmen," some doing honorable

procedure. The truth is, though, that over the course of the two years of the experiment it has never been necessary in practice to actually impose such "sanctions." All contractors are solvent and punctual.

"What is more," adds E. Truve, first deputy minister of consumer services of the ESSR, "even those of our organizations which used to run losses on consumer services of 30-40 kopecks on the ruble have now become profitable. They have been able to do this by increasing the volume of services they perform, reducing their fixed constant expenses and improving quality."

Ah, yes, about complaints. A single valid complaint by a customer could "cost" a brigade up to 100 rubles in penalties. If customers begin to complain regularly, the enterprise has the right to abrogate the work agreement. It still can't be said, of course, that all contracting organizations are performing just as they should be, for the occasional "pricks" can still be felt. Not infrequently, for example, a consumer service contractor, particularly a repairman who works on some of the more complicated pieces of equipment, will have to hold off on giving an answer to a customer because of some problem with the enterprises responsible for supplying whatever spare parts might be involved. Complaints about discourtesy on the part of the contractor, however, or problems involving the failure of a contractor to meet his completion deadline are considered highly unusual.

By stimulating initiative, the contract system is not only drawing already existing services out of the "underground," but is also giving rise to new ones which at first glance would appear to be going beyond what we ordinarily think of as consumer services. On the whole, though, this is as it should be: let's hurry up the process of bringing beauty and the creative professional into the everyday lives of people today.

...Not long before the end of the year, the last page of a local newspaper carried a small advertisement informing readers that at 6 "A" Tallinn Street in the center of Vilyandi they could avail themselves of the services of a professional artist. Long-time residents of the city were more than just a little surprised, what with the fact that up until not too long before that there had been no building with that number.

"There used to be nothing but the dilapidated ruins of a little hole-in-the-wall place of some kind here," Yye Arnoldovich says as we arrived at this address. "But now look, here's a neat little wooden place the artists fixed up themselves."

We open the door and go down three steep steps. The room contains two glass display cases and a screen of some original design, behind which we found literally a meter-sized space with a couple of chairs for people who drop in.

Margit Randmyae, the proprietor of this little studio, shows us her work: some congratulation cards and address books bearing hand-drawn designs and samples of some wooden frames.

If you're going to visit someone, you really should stop by this place, because only here are you going to have your gifts wrapped so attractively. The festive wrapping paper has been printed locally with designed worked up by the artists here themselves. This together with ribbon and string Margit Randmyae can use to "create" a mood, for both the person who's going to be giving the gift and the one who will receive it.

And then you can fill out a form here and have the artist come by your place to give you some ideas on interior decoration.

This art services studio in Vilyandi has only recently opened for business, so its a little too early to be talking about its economic performance. One can, however, speak with a great deal of confidence about the popularity of the place. For it is now a continuous stream of people that now makes it way up and down those three steep steps behind the door at 6 "A" Tallinn Street.

Consumer service organizations within the republic operating on the contract basis are now providing virtually all of what we would include among the basic consumer services: hair dressing and cosmetic services, special occasion and photography service, repairs on household appliances and radios and televisions, repairs and custom sewing of shoes and clothes and automobile repairs. What is more, you can observe the development of that real service-oriented attitude here more and more clearly as the experiment progresses. In the entrances to the hairdressing salons here, for example, have begun to appear television sets and even video players, fashion magazines and coffee.

The number of people working under contract within the ESSR ministry of consumer services organization has already exceeded 2000. Experts who closely analyze the progress of the experiment are of the opinion that there could have been a great many more if it had not been for the sluggishness and, in some instances, the obvious weakness of the economic services of some of the enterprises. The principle of planning with reference to "levels achieved previously," a principle which has now outlived its usefulness, but one which is still to this day applied in the case of most associations in the industry, has been a major stumbling block to the introduction of the system on any really extensive basis.

Everybody I had a chance to talk with in Estonia told me that the development of these contractual systems and the efforts to refine and improve them are being undertaken as the experiments themselves proceed. So that the system will have its flaws will be both possible and inevitable. At the same time, however, I invariably encountered a confidence in the new system, a belief that it is necessary and a promising thing of the future, what with the fact that it makes people in the consumer services business focus on the everyday needs and requirements of the public.

So let's grant that Estonia's consumer services system is not yet functioning precisely as it should, if you want to measure it against all the possible yardsticks. There are already positive indications that it is reaching for this objective. And we, the customers and the clients, can only observe this development with gratitude.

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CSO: 1827/57

UzSSR GOSSTROY OFFICIALS ON HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

Tashkent EKONOMIKA I ZHIZN in Russian No 2, Feb 87 pp 34-36

[Article by V. Stashis, deputy chairman of UzSSR GOSSTROY, and A. Borodin, chief of department of housing construction of UzSSR GOSSTROY: "A Separate Apartment for Each Family: Housing Construction in Uzbekistan"]

[Text] To provide by the year 2000 separate apartment or house for each family--this is the task set by the 27th CPSU Congress. It is a large-scale task, demanding day-by-day commitment of the most serious kind. Approximately 90,000 families in the republic are provided with new homes annually. But the housing problem remains acute. Only by the further industrialization of house building is it possible to resolve it. The plan is to place in service 34.5 million m² of housing during the 12th Five-Year Plan--that is, 10 million m² more than during the 10th Five-Year Plan.

Relying on Technical Progress

The principal tasks of the housing industry are a steady buildup in the volume of housing available, together with improvement in the quality and comfort, through the latest achievements of scientific town planning and development. In a 5-year period the amount of prefabricated housing put in service increased 1.5 times. Construction plans call for the completion of 3.1 million m² of such housing by 1990. To accomplish this will require fundamental restructuring of the work of housing construction enterprises and beginning at last to use them at full capacity.

Monolithic, cast-in-place housing construction should be given extensive development. There is no substitute for it in regions of high seismicity and unsettled ground as well as where there is no foundation for large-panel construction or where prefabricated construction is not always possible because of a lack of roads. Buildings raised with such progressive technology fill a special role in town planning and development; for it is possible, of course, to construct a house in unitized form for any configuration. The cast-in-place method has no competitor in this respect in industrial housing construction. It must not be forgotten, however, that the cast-in-place monoliths are efficient only on condition that construction time meets proper standards.

The introduction of progressive technology should make it possible in a five-year period to release 3,100 persons from work, while saving 12,500 tons of metal, 24,500 tons of cement, and 556 tons of standard fuel. Altogether, this will save 5.8 million rubles.

Another vital problem for republic cities, primarily for Tashkent, is raising the number of stories in building construction. High marks are deserved for cooperation between the planners of the Tashkent Scientific Research Institute for Economics and Planning and the builders of the Tashkent Housing Construction Combine (HCC) 1, who without a production letup have mastered the building of 9-story housing on the foundations previously used for 4-and-5-story housing. This has raised development density, while reducing labor and metal consumption. As a result each meter of housing produced by the combine has proved to be 1 percent cheaper compared with housing produced by HCC-2. In the very near future, after the restructuring of the building combines, 80-90 percent of housing in the capital will be completed in from 9 to 16 stories. Large-panel high-rise buildings will be developed with jointed monoliths, which in addition to reducing labor consumption will save up to 100 kilograms of metal for every square meter of construction. Special attention is being given to improving the quality and comfort of housing in large-panel high-rise buildings. Planning decisions are being made in such a way as to ensure flexibility of housing and the industrial quality of items produced by Tashkent's HCC-3 for the 10-story buildings of series No. 148.

Modular housing construction will be developed according to design series B.T.S. during the 12th Five-Year Plan. The decision that has been made for in-place joint casting together with the far greater rigidity and strength of the modules themselves ensures resistance to earthquakes; and it allows for greater freedom in planning apartments and improved plasticity of facades. The production list [nomenklatura] of the series includes double as well as angular modular sections, permitting an increase in the number of apartments with access to a single stairway and elevator. All apartments, moreover, are to have either through or corner drafts for increased housing comfort. In erecting apartment houses of this series as compared with large-panel buildings, labor expenditures are to be cut in half and steel expenditures by 20-25 percent. In a 5-year period republic residents will receive 450,000 m² of series B.T.S. housing space.

Another interesting new feature is the construction of buildings with pre-stressed steel frames without the use of crossbars. This system, as distinct from the unitized construction in the country at present, does not have crossbars used as bearing elements of spans, practically eliminating welding on installation. According to data from the Tbilisi Scientific Research Institute for Economics and Planning, the introduction of this type of construction can achieve a reduction in steel expenditure of 25-40 percent, in labor expenditure of 15-20 percent, and in construction costs of up to 10 percent. It should also be said that crossbarless steel frames have been well received by erection crews who point to the simplicity and

convenience of installation, ease of assimilation, and the potential of achieving high labor productivity.

One of the main problems that remains is improving the integration of development. To resolve this problem it is proposed that a changeover be made to constructing projects in the social sphere, in trade, and in domestic services out of large panels so that the housing construction combines could build not simply housing but all the other facilities that accompany it.

A Comfortable Dwelling for the Villager

In recent years there has been marked progress in Uzbekistan in systematizing rural resettlement and in improving rural housing construction. Over the years of the 11th Five-Year Plan about 1,650 farmsteads have been eliminated, and more than 15 million m² of living area have been built, including kindergarten-nurseries for 120,000, schools for 300,000 and many other public service facilities.

Praiseworthy also is the extensive influence of the sovkhos "Surkhan" of Dzharkurganskiy Rayon and kolkhoz "40 let Oktyabrya" of Termezskiy Rayon in Samarkand Oblast, the kolkhoz "Leningrad" of Syrdarinskiy Rayon in Syr-Darya Oblast, and many others engaged in the systematic elimination of the farmstead system and the integrated development of settlements equipped with the necessary machinery. But the demands of the economy on the housing fund are still great. Many houses and apartments must yet be placed in service in the area of new reclamation as well as in regions with irrigation presently available. To solve the problem of integrated rural reconstruction it is necessary to make use of a variety of forms of mass construction. Under the 12th Five-Year Plan there cooperative and individual construction will be developed as well as state construction. Four million m² of living area are scheduled to be placed in service annually in the years ahead. It is planned to build more than half of this amount by attracting the capital resources of the workers locally.

It is possible to carry out the contemplated program only upon one condition-- further developing the base of prefabricated housing construction. By the end of the present five-year plan about 70 percent of the total volume of state construction is to be achieved using prefabricated housing. New projects, such as series No. 228, No. 222, YUG and DSB [not further identified] are finding extensive application in sovkhos settlements.

Cooperative construction programs have undergone major development. Annual volume now totals more than 200,000 m². There are more than 800 housing development cooperatives in republic kolkhozes.

Special attention is now being paid to matters pertaining to the development of individual building projects in rural areas. Settlement general plans provide for special zones to accommodate individual construction. The zones are selected with due consideration given to connecting all dwellings with the network of utilities, so that residents may utilize public service facilities. To provide assistance to the builders and to local organs,

worked-out and approved house project instructional materials have been published in large circulation pamphlets; a republic-wide contest has been held to determine the best facade variations; and a special album has been published publicizing the most interesting architectural solutions.

Republic specialists have developed 40 individual house designs. These are single-story farmsteads in which the number of rooms varies from 2 to 6. Climatic factors, demographic variations, and republic traditions have been taken into consideration in making the designs.

Monolithic, cast-in-place housing construction is receiving major consideration under the 12th Five-Year Plan. The experience gained in erecting such housing at the kolkhoz "Politotdel" in Tashkent Oblast reveals the potential of this type of housing construction in terms of economy and effectiveness. In all about 600,000 m² of monolithic housing will be constructed in rural areas under the 12th Five-Year Plan.

Nevertheless, the quality of rural housing construction still does not meet the demands of the time. The level of the industrialization of construction methods for rural communal buildings is unusually low, and as a result the system of services and amenities is taking shape slowly. The best public utilities and improvements are still to be desired. The reason for this is that the new, economical and advanced types of engineering and mechanical equipment are still not in production.

We cannot be satisfied today with the architectural and artistic merit of rural construction. We have as yet extraordinarily few settlements that could be called models of the art of town planning--with striking solutions in the assembly of communal centers and variety in composition of housing units. The adaptations of specifications are without artistry and the work on facades and interiors is not completely finished.

Rayon ispolkoms and architects as well as oblast construction departments and their architects are not exerting proper control over town planning, which leads to the violation of general plans for settlements and the planlessness of housing under construction. Violations of this sort are evident in the the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Voroshilovskiy, Gulistanskiy, and Komsomolskiy rayons in Syr-Darya Oblast; of Chirakchinskiy, Kamashinskiy, and Karshinskiy rayons in Kashka-Darya Oblast; of Payarykskiy and Kattakurganskiy rayons in Samarkand Oblast; and of Kalininskiy and Vostanlykskiy rayons in Tashkent Oblast.

Obvious mismatches have occurred in the industrialization of rural construction. Construction industry enterprises have still not mastered the entire production list that would otherwise provide for the housing fund structure as planned and the demographic profile. Two or three house types in all predominate. Tashkent and Syr-Darya oblasts, for example, have only houses in series No. 228 under construction; Dzhizak Oblast has only series DSB; and the Fergana Valley has only the obsolete series No. 46.

An important means of raising the caliber of rural housing is the experimental-demonstration building program. The State Agricultural Committee, however, is in no hurry to put up experimental settlements. Their introduction is being systematically snarled. The lag is especially great in the work going on at the Leninizm and imeni Sverdlova kolkhozes in Tashkent Oblast, the Oktyabr kolkhoz in Samarkand Oblast, the imeni Engelsa kolkhoz in Bukhara Oblast, and at the Madaniyat sovkhov in Andizhan Oblast.

The demands of scientific and technical progress, as well as the increasing efficiency of measures for the social restructuring of rural areas, dictate the necessity of the integrated resolution of all problems, requiring the establishment of an independent scientific-research institute in order to determine the most effective means of developing architecture and the construction industry in this area of Uzbekistan.

The basic scientific program for establishing the rural settlements of the future and for the liquidation of traditional farmsteads must be worked out through the joint efforts of research engineers, architects, and builders under the current five-year plan. To achieve this in the context of materials made available in 1986, it is essential to hold an open republic competition for the improvement of rural housing design, for raising the level of their industrial engineering, and for placing in operation local systems of self-operating mechanical equipment. Important, too, is testing the more advanced design solutions for buildings, such as crossbarless steel frames, subsoil materials for walls, and modular house construction. Completion of the construction project for experimental-demonstration settlements and making the experience gained in their installation available will make possible their extensive utilization in design and construction.

Capital construction today has available a specific program of action. This program is contained in the most recent party and state documents, which set forth a system of measures directed at the efficient industrialization of the construction industry, improvement in the structure of administrative control, and an increase in the duties and responsibilities of design and contract organizations as well as the local soviets. Their implementation will make it possible to attain a new level of technical excellence and to make an immense contribution to the social and economic development of our republic.

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OIL, GAS INSTITUTE FAULTED FOR BURFAUCRATISM

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 1, 2

[Article by Ye. Leontyeva, deputy editor for division of science and technical progress: "What To Leave Outside"; first paragraph SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA introduction]

[Text] The interbranch scientific and technical complex Nefteotdacha was created in one of the most complicated areas of the development of industry: during past years petroleum workers have become greatly indebted to the state. The head organization of the complex is the VNIIneftegaz [All-Union Scientific Research Institute of the Petroleum and Gas Industry] and it is this organization that should consolidate scientific forces and give the branch a "second breath." In the shortest possible periods of time it is necessary to develop new methods for increasing the output from a bed, fundamentally improve the technology for extracting petroleum, and provide petroleum regions with the latest technical equipment. But in order to carry out these tasks successfully it is necessary to change a great deal in the work of the head institute and in the psychology of its workers.

Anyone who has visited the suburbs of Baku probably has imprinted in his memory a forest of derricks. This forest has been sung about by poets and extolled by prose writers. But then it becomes clear that there is no particular need for such a forest to grow up. It is sufficient to place single derricks at a greater distance from one another. And just as much oil would be obtained, but it would be less expensive than it is "from the forest."

We should clarify that this has not just been learned recently--the dispute of the petroleum scientists has been going on for a long time: what should the network of oil wells be like? Dense or sparse? Mistakes in this issue have been very expensive (and they still are). For the cost of one oil well is now near a million.

...Many people would like to forget about this document now. But it exists and it tells a great deal. And it seems to pertain to a basic issue concerning the network.

"If one accepts the viewpoint of Academician Krylov, this in itself will cause a great deal of harm to the national economy.... He takes mechanistic positions and ignores the materialist dialectic...."

This is from the decision of the Board of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry published in 1980.

Why do you want to drag that up again? Why look up old documents? We are on the threshold of great new works--we have no time for that now. This or approximately this is what I was told regarding this document in the VNIIneftegaz. Why bring it up? Well, in order to have a clear idea of what should cross the threshold of the complex--this supposedly revolutionary organization--and what should not.

Historical forgetfulness is an unforgivable think. And it is even worse to forget what happened yesterday, that which is still being experienced and has not yet even become history. The Soviet School of the Development of Petroleum Deposits would be unthinkable without Aleksandr Petrovich Krylov and without his scientific contribution to it. For many years he was in charge of the VNIIneftegaz. Because of him the Soviet Union has become a pioneer in the method of flooding, which today is used to obtain 90 percent of the entire volume of petroleum extracted in the country. It was this method that made it possible to dig fewer oil wells: water that is pumped into the bed helps to push the petroleum from a larger "field."

Far from all scientists supported this method. It would be better to say that only a few of them did. The opposing viewpoint was the official policy of the ministry. That is putting it mildly: the dense field of oil wells, regardless of how much they cost, suited the oil field workers--this way it was easy to "skim off" the oil from the deposits. This is also the reason for the appearance of the document cited above which was issued in the ministry and signed by many scientists. Its goal was clear: with a wave of the administrative wand, they could cut off the "dispute that was holding things up." And at the same time they could discredit Krylov and discredit his scientific approach to the matter. By this time Aleksandr Petrovich had already left the post of director.

The first to sign the document was the former deputy minister, E. Khalimov. G. Vakhitov, who replaced Krylov as director of the VNIIneftegaz, signed it right away. The "Khalimov-Vakhitov Alliance" was formed immediately and turned out to be strong. The former would not tolerate others' opinions and the latter was ready to serve and do everything "in the ministry's way." And if Krylov never betrayed the interests of science for the sake of the "needs of the day" his successor Vakhitov preferred not to be limited by this principle.

During the time of his directorship the institute began to crumble. Much of that which was accumulated by the Krylov school was thrown to the wind. This is why when the question arose of who should be in charge of the interbranch scientific and technical complex Nefteotdacha, Vakhitov was not promoted. The post was taken by one of Krylov's followers, the eminent specialist in the petroleum industry Mikhail Leontyevich Surguchev.

The legacy he inherited, as we can see, was quite difficult. It included the dispute about the networks of oil wells that had been "covered up" by the will of the ministry. The reverberations were as follows: without receiving the proper publicity, the problem is now strangely divided up in the minds both of the proponents and opponents of Krylov. I spoke with people in both camps. Each of them think that their truth and no other will win out. As a result, as Surguchev thinks they have never managed to reach a unified practical approach to the distribution of oil wells.

He also inherited the incredibly divided structure of the institute. Just think, almost every division of the ministry wanted to have its own corresponding division in the institute and in many cases they received what they wanted. About 100 subdivisions appeared, but what was the point? This was far from the best way to conduct work in the major areas. They swallowed up basic research. The division of economics was actually disbanded. The division that was to further improve the most important method of increasing the output from the bed--flooding--was fundamentally weakened. The division for new and promising methods is being narrowed.

Even before the creation of the interdepartmental scientific and technical complex VNIIneftegaz was the head industry in the area of the development of petroleum deposits, technical equipment and technology for extraction. But did it combine the efforts of petroleum scientists and develop a unified, coordinated policy in the area under its jurisdiction? Far from it. Even judging from the discussion it is clear that there was no question of unity. And yet our country has considerable forces employed in petroleum. In the ministry of the petroleum industry alone there are about 3 dozen institutes. The question of the results of the work of all this "army," of course, is complicated, it has many facets, and it requires special consideration. But when I asked the managers of the interdepartmental scientific and technical complex which of the prepared "side" developments could exert a revolutionizing influence on the branch or whether today it would be possible to adopt and quickly begin to assimilate, I did not receive a convincing answer.

Serguchev admits that the interbranch ties of the scientists are weak and ineffective. A great deal has to be started over here. For the head institute not only has not properly fulfilled its own coordinating functions, but it has not been a generator of ideas which could inspire its "fellows" beyond the departmental walls. And frequently there has been a kind of scientific snobbery, an avoidance of anything that has originated "outside." That was the case with the developments of the BashNIPIneft. It suggested using a surface-active substance in order to increase the output from the bed. The Academic Institute in Tomsk has worked very successfully on intensification of the extraction of petroleum but its collective has not enjoyed understanding from the legislators of the head organization for a long time either. It is not difficult to find similar things in the interrelations with VUZ science. In the Kazan State University for many years they were conducting industrial experiments in regulating the movement of liquid in the porous part of the bed. Good figures were obtained. The enthusiasts should be helped to expand this work, but their requests for support were never granted.

What could be the result of the institute's weak approach to solving the most important problems related to the development of petroleum extraction and the poor coordination of the efforts of scientists? How has this been reflected in the results of the work of the branch? As we know, the past five-year plan showed results that were from those earmarked--the tactic of skimming the surface was reflected. The example of Samotlor, which ended up in a stoppage is confirmation of this.

Now the oil field workers are discovering simple truths for themselves: it turns out that old measures cannot be applied to the newly assimilated, poorer areas. It is necessary to change the technology of drilling. The previous approach to opening up the bed is not very acceptable--it clearly damages it. Let us just recall the Sutorminskoye deposit in Tyumen Oblast where, because of the poor quality of drilling the well, they received water instead of oil. It would be good to put this bitter experience to use: but to do this it is necessary to have an on-the-spot analysis and prompt information and well-substantiated predictions. None of the three of these is at the proper level right now.

Thus the branches come face to face with new problems and is poorly prepared for them. We hand them over to you, the interbranch scientific and technical complex! We are placing great hopes in you. With this legacy you are to reach the highest goals in a short period of time. You are to achieve a great reduction of the path from science to practice.... This is not simple. We are already convinced that the new interbranch scientific and technical complex is not a freshly molded bar of metal, but a complex organism with a difficult load of yesterday's and today's problems. How necessary it is here to have a strong collective of people who think the same way, one which is capable not only of "surviving" in the departmental environment, but also of accomplishing great deeds.

A large share of the concerns, of course, go to the managers of the interbranch scientific and technical complex, including the deputy general directors. But here is what bothers us: quite a bit of time has passed and the positions of the deputies have been filled only recently. And among those that are long established we find the familiar names of Khalimov and Vakhitov. I tried in vain to glean from them profound thoughts about the development of the complex, about what should be abandoned in its construction and what should be utilized. "What they have been instructed--they will do. But one can see no initiative in this"--this is the way the secretary of the institute's party committee, P. Sadchikov, described their work. Can one not detect self-serving in this attitude: previously there were interested in immediate needs, and now--what is new and promising.

I think the diagnosis is correct also because Vakhitov, who previously persecuted Krylov, loves now to say "Krylov and I have achieved...." and that "he is the most respected person with whom my best years are linked." Who can guarantee that after a certain amount of time we will not hear "I and Krylov"? And Khalimov, who from his lofty position used an impermissible tone in his communication with the talented scientists, which many people confirm, now nods in who knows what direction: "They destroyed a good man."

...The complex is finding it difficult to get on its feet. It has just barely completed the certification in the head institute. They just barely appointed the leaders of the most important directions for the development of the complex. They just barely approved the council of the interdepartmental scientific and technical council. Only recently did they approve its internal provisions.

Serguchev admits that the paperwork takes a long time. And there is a great deal of it. He decides not to say that it is his own inefficiency that is to blame for this: he himself was appointed not during the first days when the complex was being created, as one would expect, but only a couple of months later. It was necessary to begin to deal specifically with concrete problems. "I want this, but so far there is no possibility," the general director shakes his head.

A good deal here depends on the approach to the matter on the part of the ministry and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. The management of the ministry has been changed recently and previous methods of management of science have fallen into disuse. But much here also continues to survive. Take just the ingrained habit of coordinating everything in a large number of agencies. How, for example, did they coordinate the plan for the operation of the interdepartmental scientific and technical complex? Serguchev says that they should have gone around to all the participants and settled everything. But no, an order comes out: let us coordinate this in the technical administrations of all the ministries. Why, one asks, use this procedure when the plan is approved at the level of the head organizations of these same ministries?

Apparently the party organization should also have a special role in the construction of the complex. Now it is necessary not only to overcome all that the communists tacitly agreed upon without contradicting Vakhitov's policy, which is far from collegial. It is necessary on a new basis to unite the efforts of the party organizations of the 10 institutes participating in the complex and to arrange the closest relations with the party committees of three scientific production associations that are included in the interbranch scientific and technical complex.

The first steps are always the most difficult. Even if they are not very confident at first, even if they have to be changed. The main thing is that they lead to the goal. So that it is not necessary to pay for any of them later. And this means that the disputes must be exceptionally scientific, the interests must be devoid of all personal selfishness, and the work must be worthy of good words.

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SOCIAL, LABOR RESOURCES IN WEST SIBERIA EXAMINED

Moscow STROITELSTVO TRUBOPROVODOV in Russian No 2, Feb 87 pp 1-5

[Article by V.T. Sedenko, president, Central Committee, Trade Union of Petroleum and Gas Industry Workers: "Man is at the Center of Attention"]

[Text] The CPSU considers as its prime purpose the constant and resolute improvement of the national well-being and the perfecting of all aspects in the life of the Soviet people. This goal underlies the reconstruction of the national economy and guides the acceleration of national progress. "Everything for the sake of man, everything for the well-being of man" - this is the program concept of our party.

The party's social policy has the complete support of all the Soviet people. Efforts related to the realization of existing plans are increasing. The workers of Minneftegazstroy (Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises), the same as all Soviet people, understand clearly that selfless labor on the part of each person is a certain way to bring about further growth in well-being and successful accomplishment of resolutions passed by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Petroleum and gas construction is one of the youngest, fastest-growing and also most specialized branches of the national economy.

Under the 11th Five-Year Plan, ministry enterprises and other organizations accomplished a large industrial program and made great progress in construction and installation operations. The number of these operations in 1981-1985 compared with the 10th Five-Year Plan showed a growth of 48%, while in West Siberia - the major construction area - the figure was 68%. Construction of the most important project of the five-year plan - a system of cross-country gas pipelines - was completed. The pipelines with a total length of more than 20,000 kilometers and capacity of about 200 million cubic meters of gas a year, stretch from Urengoy to the central regions of the country. The operational program of the West Siberian Petroleum and Gas Complex increased by a factor of 1.7, while its share of the total volume managed by Minneftegazstroy attained 55%.

The extremely rapid construction progress made in the petroleum and gas industry, even with the inclusion of the recent considerable increase in

labor productivity, has made it necessary to expand the work force. The number of workers grew by 29,000 in the 10th Five-Year Plan, while in the latest, the 11th, the branch brought in another 60,000 builders; taking into account related production activities, impacted area and scientific institutions, the total number is 86,000 persons. In the current five-year plan, the 12th, concerted and wide-scale efforts to recruit personnel for the branch will be continued, with the goal being up to 25,000 workers a year.

Our construction projects, especially those in West Siberia, are justly said to be pioneering in nature. The difficult environmental and climatic conditions to which workers are subjected often border on the extreme. In addition, it is necessary to take into account the ever-increasing production scales and the mounting use of complex technology and equipment. It is sufficient to say that in the 12th Five-Year Plan the volume of automatic welding of large-diameter pipes will increase to 70%, new technologies of laying pipelines in swamps and permafrost introduced, and year-round construction of pipelines practiced.

All this raises the question not only of additional recruitment of highly-qualified specialists but also of continued expansion in amount of vocational on-the-job training. In the years of the 11th Five-year Plan alone, 170,000 qualified workers became trained and 246,000 persons raised to a higher classification. The average worker classification category rose from 4.04 to 4.32, while the fifth and sixth categories amounted to 42% of the total number of persons involved with construction, installation and ancillary work.

Our branch is rightly considered to be youthful. Average worker age is 34, and more than 40% of Minneftegazstroy employees are younger than 30. West Siberia receives about 10,000 young men and women a year, with the average age being 32 years. Young people are attracted to the construction sites by the mobile nature of the work, the possibility of showing their worth under difficult conditions, and demonstrating their acceptance of the glorious labor traditions of Komsomol members of the 1930's and 1940's.

The influx of young people into the branch will remain large in future years. The number of student construction detachments will rise to 20,000 with about 15,000 assigned to the most important sites in Siberia. It is planned to increase to 10,000 the number of vocational and technical school graduates assigned to Minneftegazstroy organizations and enterprises.

The branch makes wide use of the expedition pledge and pledge methods of organizing construction and installation work. Under the 11th Five-Year Plan the volume of operations performed by those methods rose by 25% and attained 2.5 million rubles, with 60% of the funds allotted to West Siberia. The pledge method of work organization, one of the most important factors related to growth in petroleum and gas construction by virtue of greater site construction rates, should be handled in an integrated manner, with consideration of difficulties associated with replaceability of workers

in the construction area and the duration of their stay, which is often far from their permanent residence.

It was just the above factors that the branch took into account in its resolution of its social development tasks under the 11th Five-Year Plan. They have been incorporated into the practical activity of labor collectives for the present plan. Let us note some more landmarks associated with the handling of social tasks under the 11th Five-Year Plan.

First and foremost, further improvement was attained in residential, cultural and other standard of living conditions of branch employees. The plan saw the availability of about 3.6 million square meters of new housing, an amount which exceeded the plan goal. The system of pre-school institutions was considerably expanded. Advances were made in goods availability to builders: merchandise turnover increased by 1.2 times and sales of locally-produced products rose by half, which largely accounted for the considerable increase - by 3.5 times - in number of subsidiary farms.

Much has been accomplished in improvement of working conditions and occupational health. Working conditions for 123,000 branch employees have been brought up to the norms and rules for labor protection and sanitation; for 55,000 workers there has been improvement effected by measures directed at reconstruction of shops and sections and major repair of buildings. Three hundred and fifty sites which did not meet work standards were shut down; a large number of machines, equipment and mechanisms that failed to satisfy safety standards was removed from the active list. In addition, construction industrialization of petroleum and gas industry sites made it possible to transfer a large number of construction and installation operations to a manufacturing basis to eliminate the manual labor of 16,800 branch laborers.

The above are our attainments. However, not all the measures provided for in the "Basic Directions for Social Development of Minneftegazstroy Collectives for the 11th Five-Year Plan" have been realized completely. The initial results for 1986, which is the first year of the 12th Five-Year Plan, also do not provide a basis for expecting that the branch social policy is being carried out "strongly" as required by the times. We all know that, for trade union and economic managers, the social policy and workers' interests must always be in the main focus of their attention. All the more since their responsibility is high in this area, during the national struggle for acceleration of the country's socio-economic development.

But can it be said that the activity of all economic managers and trade union organizations is fully responsive to this task, that it is geared to maximum concern for conditions of work and living standard of workers? Unfortunately, no. Here the problems, shortcomings and difficulties are numerous. There are cases of inertia, and often of simple insensitivity to workers' social needs and demands.

What tasks does the branch face in the next five-year plan? Firstly, major changes in working conditions and nature of work must be made. The number of manual laborers remains high. In the beginning of the present five-year plan it amounted to 38.8% in construction; in industry, 33.7%. The goals set for reducing the number of workers involved with labor-intensive work and those working under harmful conditions have not been met. The share of these workers at the beginning of 1986 exceeded 20%. In general, throughout the ministry plans have not been met in expanding the system of laundry facilities for special work clothing, personal hygiene rooms for women, and industrial medical laboratories. Progress has been slow in reducing losses caused by inability to work resulting from numerous omissions in serving personnel residing in temporary field quarters and in pledge settlements and from insufficient provision of special work clothing.

Serious shortcomings in labor protection, industrial accident prevention, and enforcement of industrial discipline are noted in the Glavtruboprovodstroy [Main Administration of Gas Pipelines under Construction], Glavsibtruboprovodstroy [Main Administration of Pipelines in Siberia], and Glavukmeftegazstroy [Main Administration of Petroleum and Gas Pipeline construction in the Ukraine]. Especially alarming is the persistently high accident rate associated with motor transportation. Managers in a number of trucking enterprises, acting with the connivance of trade union committees, have discontinued their efforts to prevent accidents, enforce discipline, and root out drunkenness among drivers.

One of the causes of the high accident rate is poor organization of labor and a negligent attitude on the part of the managers of a number of enterprises relative to effective technical supervision and to improving the level of worker education and training. Violation of the rules and norms of safety procedures in the branch in 1985 alone resulted in disciplinary and administrative punishment of about 13,000 employees, the firing of 184 workers, and reduction in position of about 320.

Although the above measures are grave and severe, they must be applied in the future also in the case of negligent workers. Questions of worker health protection must be given highest priority in the entire socio-economic structure.

The years of the 11th Five-Year Plan saw some improvement in worker medical care. Physician-rendered medical care increased by 25 times, treatment rendered by physician assistants (feldsher) by 1.5; the system of preventive medicine institutions was strengthened and expanded. Nevertheless, our workers voice many complaints over the way medical care is organized. All this has a direct bearing on the sickness rate of branch workers and their family members. Work time lost in the Minneftegazstroy in 1985 due to this cause amounted to 3.5 million days.

In addition, there is a problem connected with fund appropriation for construction of hospitals and polyclinics, of which there is as we know a substantial shortage, especially in West Siberia and the Far North. The

situation is completely miserable relative to introduction of sanatoria and dispensaries. Although plans called for the construction of facilities for 2,000 patients, the past five-year plan saw the provision of 400 beds. With a half million workers, there are only 10 dispensing sanatoria with 940 beds. As we know, the branch has acquired good experience in erecting modern sanatoria for industrial workers that are of various designs and possess a wide array of medical equipment. These sanatoria are the "Gradostroitel" of the Vinzili DSK SKID plant [not further identified] and the "Bodrost" of the trust Tuymazaneftstroy [not further identified].

In line with the overall plan for improving conditions, labor safety and medical care for 1986-1990 the ministry and trade union central committee have developed a large-scale program of operations costing more than 380 million rubles.

Under this plan, during the present five-year plan it is proposed to erect hospitals offering 1,380 beds, polyclinics for 2,520 patient visits, dispensing sanatoria for 2,560 patients and Young Pioneer Camps for 11,300 persons, which should bring about some improvement in state of health care for builders. The main thing for now is organization of systematic erection of preventive medicine institutions and discontinuance of the "remaining principles" often followed in the past. "Long-building jobs" should not be permitted, and construction progress of these institutions should be monitored. It is necessary to tighten control over the implementation of overall plans for improving conditions, safety procedures and worker health measures, while more widely disseminating the experience leading collectives have gained in improving work conditions and installing systems for monitoring safety procedures.

In spite of the considerable progress made in residential construction (for nine months of 1986 the ministry residential construction plan was fulfilled by 105.2%, with 30,000 square meters of additional housing introduced), this problem remains acute for the branch and the housing requirement is as serious as before. More than 116,000 workers are on the waiting list for well-appointed apartments or are in need of improved housing conditions. It still has not been possible to eliminate completely the old buildings that house more than 4,000 people. The use of mobile housing is still considerable; the number of people claiming them as a residence even increased recently by 10,500.

Work on the 1986 housing plan was very hectic and unsystematic. This was especially true for the associations "Sibkomplektmontazh" [Siberian Residential Equipment Installation], "Soyuzpodvodtruboprovodstroy" [Union Pipeline Construction and Installation Association], and Glavyamburnefttegazstroy [not further identified]. Some trade union and economic managers are of the opinion that this aspect of work is not their responsibility. The so-called construction start complexes continue to be a problem. By assigning priority status to construction of industrial facilities, which require less labor and generate more income, these managers, often acting in collusion with the contractor and taking advantage of the lack of control on the part

of trade union committees, put off the erection of social facilities "until later" and ignore the requirements for construction integration and even of priority accorded social facilities.

A task which has not been completed is quality improvement of residential housing and of other facilities designated for social purposes. One cannot ignore the fact that occupants of a new apartment often experience resentment and irritation instead of joy. Many examples of poor builders can be cited.

However, it is most disturbing when this happens in a town such as Novyy Urengoy, which is an advanced post in our assault on new reserves of petroleum and gas in West Siberia. The lack of effective quality control over housing construction, inertia, complacency, and sometimes simply lack of principle of some managers are fundamental causes of erection of social facilities here that are plagued by many defects and unfinished work. In 1985 there was a reduction in number of residential units rated "good" from 75% to 61%; not a single residential project received the "excellent" rating. Only 10% of the residential units built by the facilities of the Urengoygazstroy [Urengoy Gas Pipeline Construction] received the "good" rating, while in 1984 64% of residential housing units received this rating.

In accordance with the branch scientific and technical program "Social Development of Collectives in the Enterprises and Organization⁸ of Minneftegazstroy for 1986-1990", under the 12th Five-Year Plan it is planned to build 5.8 million square meters of housing for branch workers, which will raise the housing availability figure to 10.7 square meters per person and to 9.7 square meters for West Siberia. It is planned to change the kind of new housing by increasing the share of dormitory facilities and housing for small families to 44% on the average, expanding the cooperative construction program, and erecting 370,000 square meters of cooperative housing.

One of the approaches to a more rapid solution of the branch housing problem is the construction of youth residential complexes (MZhK). It is planned to erect in the branch under the 12th Five-Year Plan youth residential complexes in West Siberia (for example, there are plans to build three complexes for 6,000 residents in Nadym for Glavyamburgneftegazstroy sometime, in Ufa and in Astrakhan).

Under the 12th Five-Year Plan, the children's pre-school institution problem should be resolved completely. There is still a waiting list of 45,700 for a vacancy. The main thing now is to develop in each enterprise and in each organization a clear program for resolving the housing problem and effecting complete satisfaction of the need for children's institutions. To this end, it is necessary to employ all ways and means to support and disseminate widely the initiative of the Tolyatti workers relative to volunteering four days a year to construct housing and social facilities and to the initiative of the Gorky Motor Vehicle Plant collective approved by the VTsSPS (All-Union Central Trade Union Council), relative to providing every family

with a well-appointed separate apartment by as early as 1995.

Special emphasis must be given to the need to effect radical changes in living conditions of workers occupying temporary field housing and those living in pledge settlements. There are about 150,000 persons occupying such housing. Not all the mobile housing units being produced by the branch are functionally adequate relative to progressive standards, climate and use. Mobile housing and socially-oriented buildings also must be built in greater numbers. Pledge workers justifiably complain about suitability of mobile housing in many temporary residential facilities and pledge settlements. They become unserviceable after two or three changes of location and are not modified for use in severe environmental and climatic conditions. In addition, residential and social units are aesthetically poor as a rule. There is often a lack of necessary associated services for temporary field settlements; not all mobile housing units are hooked up to central heating or provided hot and cold water; they are not furnished the required amount of furniture, bedding, and utensils. There are cases where feeding trailers, medical stations and reading rooms are released for use even though they lack specialized equipment.

Many complaints are justifiably made relative to educational, mass cultural, and health work among residents of temporary field quarters and pledge settlements. Sufficient work has not yet been done on the material and technical basis of providing mobile forms of commercial services and public feeding under transient conditions. Progress has been slow in the construction of sports and health complexes of Glavzapsibzhilstroy [Main Administration of Housing Construction in West Siberia], Glavneftegazpromstroy [Main Administration of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises], and the Glavyuzhtruboprovodstroy [Main Administration for Construction of Pipelines in Southern Regions]. Pledge settlements are often set up without due consideration of the norms confirmed by the Statute of Pledge Settlements. Workers are sometimes housed in industrial quarters which have been refurbished for residential use. There have been cases of violations of residential procedures for pledge settlements. Improvement of the quality of mobile unit living and of the standard of cultural, social and personal services for personnel under transient conditions has become an urgent and high-priority task.

Concern for persons housed in dormitory facilities should also be assigned a position of greater importance. Here also there is a large backlog of problems that must be resolved as soon as possible. Dormitories must be built in amounts satisfying the demand for them; it is necessary in all cases to discontinue the practice of employing unsuitable buildings for residential purposes. In the near future it is necessary to accomplish a large volume of work in the area of improving the availability of soft and hard furnishings in dormitories and to set up for them well-supplied personal service points and merchandise order stations for residents.

We must give greater consideration to organizing feeding facilities for workers. We cannot be satisfied with the fact that for the ministry on the

whole the total seating capacity is 84%, while in the enterprises comprising the Sibkomplektmontazh and Glavzapsibzhilstroy associations the figures are 60.7% and 68.4%, respectively.

Mention was made above of the major areas requiring improvement in dormitory living conditions. It is necessary to include the task of providing a system of restaurants and lunch bars for all dormitories, since barely 40% of the latter are presently so provided. We need not elaborate on such details as the lack of organized feeding facilities for the 500 residents of Dormitory No 1 of the Samotlortruboprovodstroy [not further identified] trust and the 100-resident Dormitory No 9 of the Urengoygazpromstroy trust.

Many complaints lodged by workers relate to quality of food preparation, poor variety, and lack of dietetic foods. There has been no satisfactory progress made in developing a system of stores and sections retailing semi-processed foods, prepared dishes and sweets. All the above shortcomings are due primarily to weak control in this area on the part of trade union and economic managers in enterprises and other organizations.

One of the approaches to improvement of organized feeding is further development of subsidiary farms. In the branch there are now 75 agricultural enterprises, which under the 11th Five-Year Plan produced 7,400 tons of milk, 7,200 tons of meat, more than 1,000 tons of fish, 4,500 tons of potatoes, and 3,200 tons of fresh vegetables. The 12th Five-Year Plan provides for substantial increase in agricultural production, this on the basis of setting up 23 new sovkhoses and 25 river-based fodder mills producing 75,000 tons of fodder for livestock development. This should make it possible to bring up production to the following totals: milk, 26,400 tons; meat, 19,300 tons; fish, 3,300 tons; vegetables, 8,300 tons; potatoes, 11,000 tons.

As noted by the 27th Party Congress, a thorough knowledge of the fundamental needs and demands of people and their mood should become second nature to the manager and the trade union worker. "Everything that pertains to man, to his work and material well-being and recreation," it was stated at the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum "must be given our most serious attention. For us this is a key policy question." Constant concern for specific needs and interests of man should indeed become the object of daily attention of all economic and trade union organizations.

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LENINGRAD CAR OWNERS ASSIST IN PRIVATE ACTIVITY

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Mar 87 p 6

[Article by Yu. Trefilov: "By Avocation--A Taxi Driver; Leningrad Owners of Passenger Cars Have Come to the Aid of City Transport" For earlier article on this subject, see JPRS-UCG-86-012, 25 September 1986, pp 12-25.]

[Text] A journalist colleague from Archangelsk angrily slammed down the telephone receiver. "The dispatcher says that the car will come for us within 2 hours. But then I'll surely miss my plane..."

"Let's go to the taxi stand," I suggested. "Maybe they'll take us..."

At the taxi stand, which was not far from Chernaya Reka, there was a big snow-storm. There were neither cars nor passengers. But here a pale blue "Zhiguli" drove up.

Without wasting time, we quickly got into the warm and cozy car. The driver, who was about thirty-some years old, asked us to fasten our seat belts and to remember the speedometer reading.

"We'll settle up by the readings. We'll multiply the number of kilometers driven by 20 kopeks, plus another 20 kopeks for the pick-up. That's all the fare for the ride."

"How about that, just like in a real taxi," said my friend, unable to control himself.

"This is a taxi," answered the driver, unperturbed, and added, "although an experimental one, it is true..."

And here I noticed right before my eyes on the windshield were the stencilled words: "Experimental taxi". On the inside of the stencil were the clearly handwritten words: "You are being served by Kevlov, Aleksandr Ilyich. Kirov Raysovet VDOAM [not further expanded]."

Aleksandr Ilyich told us about himself, and about the experiment on involving owners of private automobiles in taxi service which was begun on 1 March in Leningrad.

Aleksandr Ilyich has had his own car since 1974. "When they made the announcement about the upcoming experiment at our Kirov automobile enthusiasts raysovet, over 150 'private owners' decided to participate in it. The selection process was very stringent. A participant in the experiment, naturally a VDOAM member, must be at least 21 years of age and must be a permanent resident of Leningrad. A driver could use only his own car, or that of relatives with their permission. The car had to be in good mechanical working order. The drivers had to have a category "C" license and at least 3 years of continuous driving experience.

"Does one have to be a professional person?"

"No. We have, for example, engineers, a carpenter, a fitter, and even retired persons. For example, there is my friend Konstantin Alekseyevich Sedorenko. He is in his early 50's. He used to work in toxic chemical production and has retired. Now he also participates in the experiment."

Our conversation was cut short by the automobile inspector, who waved his baton at the intersection of Kirovskiy Prospect and Professor Popov Street.

"Inspector of the road patrol service, GAI [State Automobile Inspection] administration, Senior Lieutenant Rudakovskiy," he saluted and asked our driver for his credentials. He asked our driver how he felt, how he was adhering to the schedule set by the experiment, and whether he had any complaints.

Using this opportunity, I asked the State Automobile Inspection service inspector to give his opinion on the conducted experiment.

"In my opinion, this is a worthwhile matter. There won't be any money grubbers or moonlighters. The auto enthusiasts, the passengers and the state will all profit. Today I checked over 10 'private' taxi drivers, and there were no complaints against any of them."

We resume our journey, and Aleksandr Ilyich continues his story about the "private taxis".

"We are allowed to work on the line 4 hours on weekdays, outside of our main productive employment. On Saturday and Sunday we can work 8 hours a day."

"How do you keep an accounting with the state?"

"Each participant has paid 65 rubles into the fund during the 2 months of the experiment, 60 for work as a taxi driver and 5 rubles for insurance. And everything which we earn over that now will be ours to keep. This money will go towards gas and servicing of the automobile."

"What is your opinion of this experiment?"

"I think we should have involved owners of private automobiles long ago in rendering transport services on a lawful basis. After all, there are many who 'moonlight'. I must admit that I too sometimes did this on the side. I would take a client and would worry that the auto inspector would stop me. Now everything is on a lawful basis. Just work honestly and don't speculate on the trust that has been given to you."

Despite the slippery road and the rising snowstorm, Aleksandr Ilyich got us to the airport 10 minutes before the start of ticket registration.

On Monday I met with the chief of the Lengorispolkom transport administration, A. A. Zorin, and asked him to comment on the experimental taxi program which had been introduced.

"As of 1 May, as you know, the Law on Individual Labor Activity goes into effect. Our experiment is being conducted under this statute, as it is in Astrakhan, Grozno, Ulyanovsk and several other cities. In a city like Leningrad which has 5 million residents, you understand, it is not so easy to experiment. Back in January the Leningrad soviet ispolkom created a work group for working out proposals. There were many difficulties. That is why the 11 rayon soviets of auto enthusiasts which unite tens of thousands of people selected from among their ranks over 200 of the most capable and most experienced participants for the experiment.

I will say honestly that some city administrators have some doubts about the "private taxis" even to this day. There will evidently be some problems. But the main thing, nevertheless, is that the taxi drivers, the financial inspectors and the controlling agencies see in the experiment participants not people who are ready to make an easy profit, but rather conscientious and honest workers. Their help, I believe, will certainly be effective. The professional taxi drivers will also tighten up their discipline. Money grubbers and undisciplined drivers will be excluded from the taxi pools. Ultimately, the entire city and all the citizens will profit by this.

According to the urban building standards, there should be 4 taxis per 1,000 residents. In Leningrad this number comprises only 0.7. This is why, specifically, there are many complaints about the work of the taxi pools and the low quality of service. The experiment will make it possible to expose the city's inner reserves. After all, today we have over 170,000 automobile owners. So, why not let them work for the city, and work on a lawful basis?

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